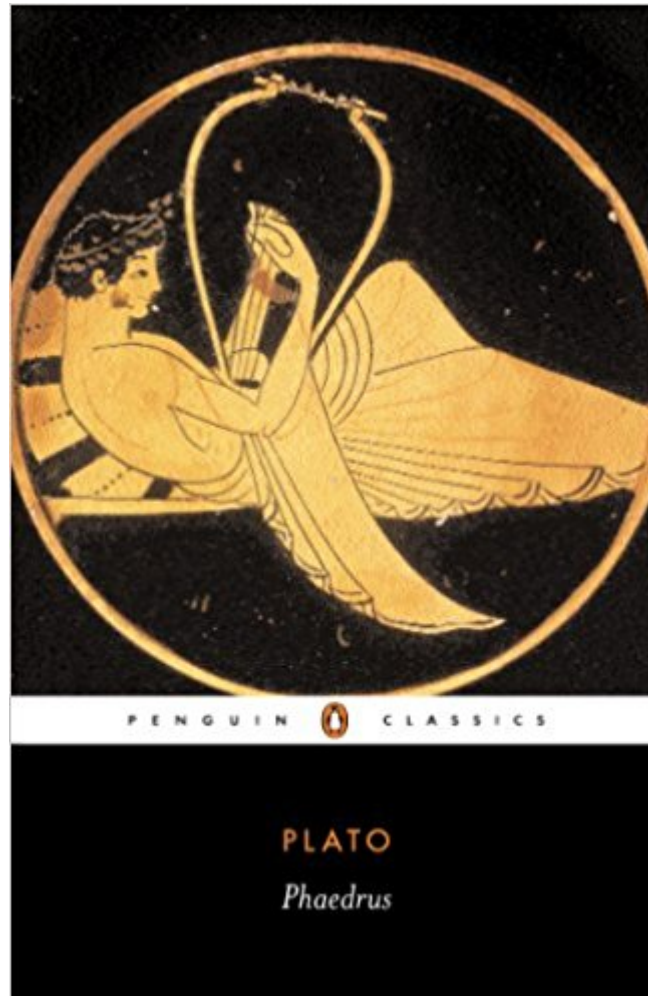




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Phaedrus (Penguin Classics)



Synopsis

Phaedrus is widely recognized as one of Plato's most profound and beautiful works. It takes the form of a dialogue between Socrates and Phaedrus and its ostensible subject is love, especially homoerotic love. This new translation is accompanied by an introduction, further reading, and full notes on the text and translation that discuss the structure of the dialogue and elucidate issues that might puzzle the modern reader. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

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Customer Reviews

Plato (c.427-347 BC) stands with Socrates and Aristotle as one of the shapers of the whole intellectual tradition of the West. He founded the Academy in Athens, the first permanent institution devoted to philosophical research and teaching, and the prototype of all Western universities. Plato wrote over twenty philosophical dialogues, appearing in none himself. (Most have Socrates as chief speaker.) Christopher Rowe is a Professor of Greek in the University of Durham, and from 1999-2004 held a Leverhulme Personal Research Professorship. His books

include Plato, The Cambridge History of Greek and Roman Thought, and New Perspectives on Plato, Modern and Ancient. He has also translated, and/or written commentaries on Plato's Phaedrus, Statesman, and Symposium. His present project is a comprehensive treatment of Plato's strategies as a writer of philosophy.

It is a classic oldie. I got it because Persig identified his alter ego as Phaedrus. And I was curious. I still do not know why the Zen motorcyclist identified with Phaedrus. I do know that Socrates talks about love here and he specifically addresses the question of how one should treat a young boy that one loves. Things were different then, huh. Or were they? Take out the man-boy relationship used as an example, and there's a lot there about the right way to love someone. Still, I understand why it is not on the Great Books reading list.

This is by far my favorite translation of Phaedrus. The other versions I've read have been too antiquated to give me a good sense of what Plato was writing, but this one was great. On top of that, the introduction made some great arguments about Phaedrus that helped me see its important place in the contemporary rhetorical conversation. This is a great buy!

An astoundingly clear exposition of the beautiful and true. Should be read once a year to clear one's head. As relevant as anything written today.

Quite the necessary read for anyone in philosophy or rhetoric. Easy to read translation.

Best available translation of Plato's Phaedrus in English. They are as literal as possible and convey the subtleties of the Greek text as if it were originally written in English. I also recommend their companion translation of Gorgias.

This is an excellent translation of the Phaedrus published with an extensive introduction and plenty of contextual footnotes to make reading more pleasant. It should be noted that this is the same translation present in 'Plato: Complete Works' (though here, the introduction shorter and more straightforward, and the footnotes less plentiful).

This is one of the best Plato pieces I've read.

fun and insightful

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