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Poetics: With The Tractatus Coislinianus, Reconstruction Of Poetics II, And The Fragments Of The On Poets (Bk. 1)



Synopsis

Richard Janko's acclaimed translation of Aristotle's *Poetics* is accompanied by the most comprehensive commentary available in English that does not presume knowledge of the original Greek. Two other unique features are Janko's translations with notes of both the *Tractatus Coislinianus*, which is argued to be a summary of the lost second book of the *Poetics*, and fragments of Aristotle's dialogue *On Poets*, including recently discovered texts about catharsis, which appear in English for the first time.

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Customer Reviews

Of enormous use to anyone, philosopher or classicist, student or instructor, who wants to know more about Aristotle's work on literature . . . more than I would have believed possible, [Janko makes] the text of the *Poetics* transparent and accessible to nonclassicists. The translation is based on a meticulous study of the text. Deviations from the standard text by R. Kassell . . . are listed in transliterated Greek; and textual questions are discussed and explained lucidly. The brief introduction is full of useful information, on Aristotle, on the background of the *Poetics*, on its structure, and on major controversies. In addition to all this, the text is followed by a little treasury of sources that permit a sketchy reconstruction of the lost second book of the *Poetics*. --Ann N. Michelini, University of Cincinnati
Thorough, admirable, indispensable to anyone seriously interested in Aristotle's literary theory, with or without access to the texts in Greek. --Thomas Clayton, University of Minnesota

Text: English, Greek (translation) --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

This translation is invaluable for its detailed annotations of Book One of the Poetics - much more thorough than the other popular choices available here on , but the fascinating reconstruction of the lost Book Two on comedy raises it to a whole new level.

This text is the first book of literary criticism in the western literary tradition--and the most influential. It is also a how-to-write-a-successful-story text, based on Aristotle's inductive study of Greek literature. Richard Janko's rendering is the best English translation I have read. His commentary on catharsis is profound, resolving what has often been a stumbling block for many critics and theorists. His interpretation is well in line with the rest of Aristotle's philosophy and makes Aristotle's analysis even more useful for both students of literature and contemporary writers. Janko's reconstruction of Aristotle's lost book on comedy is splendid, a contribution to the history of ideas and comic theory.

I read this to become a better public speaker. Either it was too dense or I was too thick.

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