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# SOPHOCLES

First produced in Athens during the fifth century BC, the tragedies of Sophocles count among the masterpieces of world literature. Drawing on all the resources of Greek mythology, Sophocles vividly depicts unforgettable characters confronted with emotional crises, moral dilemmas, and the inscrutable ways of the gods. This New Survey analyses Sophocles' reputation as a dramatic poet both in his own day and later in antiquity, investigating how some of his plays survived down the centuries while others were lost. It considers the qualities of those plays, focusing on key aspects of Sophoclean dramaturgy such as stagecraft, narrative, language, rhetoric, and heroism. And it grapples not just with the seven plays that survive in full, but also with those major papyrus fragments discovered in recent years which shed fresh light on Sophocles' inimitable artistry. All Greek is translated, which means that the book is accessible to anyone interested in one of the greatest playwrights of all time.



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