



Symposium (Oxford World's Classics)

By Plato, Robin Waterfield

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In his celebrated masterpiece, *Symposium*, Plato imagines a high-society dinner-party in Athens in 416 BC. The guests--including the comic poet Aristophanes and Plato's mentor Socrates--each deliver a short speech in praise of love. The sequence of dazzling speeches culminates in Socrates' famous account of the views of Diotima, a prophetess who taught him that love is our means of trying to attain goodness, and a brilliant sketch of Socrates himself by a drunken Alcibiades, the most popular and notorious Athenian of the time. Engaging the reader on every page, this new translation conveys the power, humor, and pathos of Plato's creation and is complemented by full explanatory notes and an illuminating introduction.

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Editorial Review

Review

"A brilliant translation that gives new life to a classic. The introduction *alone* is worth the price of the text. Waterfield brings grace and style to the *Symposium*, brushing away the dust that pollutes the inferior, dead translations of the past."--William McTaggart, *Westminster College*

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"Waterfield's translation is scholarly, yet in touch with the ZEITGEIST. More accessible than its predecessors, students will benefit from the refreshingly new tone of the introduction and translation. The notes and the index of names also add a fresh level of usefulness and a measure of charm."--Elf S. Raymond, *Sarah Lawrence College*

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Language Notes

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: Greek

From the Publisher

Library of Liberal Arts title.

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