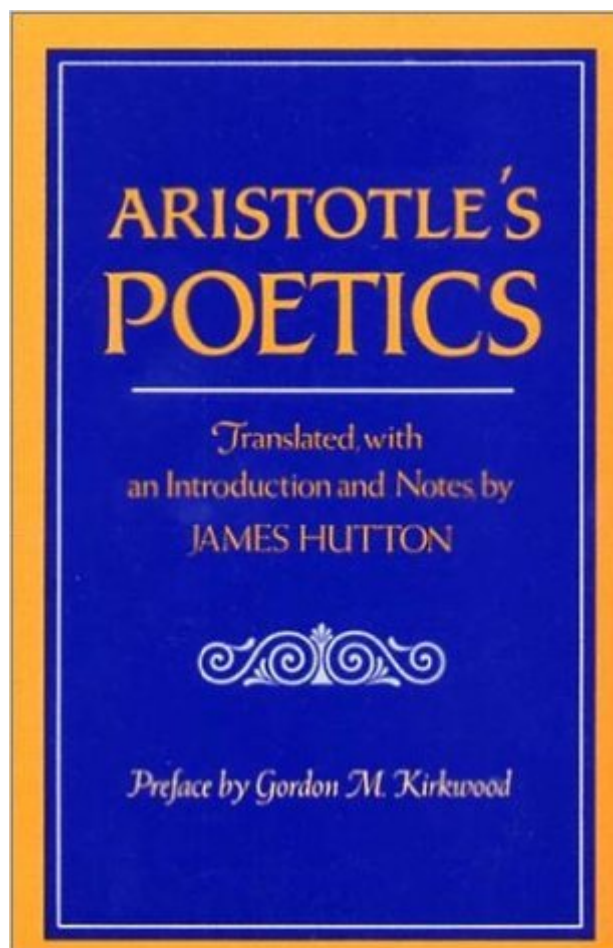


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Aristotle's Poetics



Synopsis

Here is a new translation, remarkable for its accuracy and refreshing clarity of exposition, of the first major work of literary criticism. Aristotle's doctrines are basic to every critical discussion of Greek tragedy and of other literary forms. Although the Poetics has often been denounced or rejected, such rejection is usually the result of a misunderstanding of what Aristotle says. And that is where Hutton's work is uniquely important. Commentators have long recognized the need to view the Poetics in the context of its creation and its re-emergence in the Renaissance. Few, if any, however, have had the necessary combination of talents that James Hutton possessed as an accomplished Hellenist with a particularly strong background in Greek philosophy, a graceful stylist in English, and a leading authority on the Renaissance humanists. To supplement his translation, Hutton has provided full explanatory and glossarial notes. In his introduction he discusses the work in terms of Aristotelian thought and its Platonic roots, thereby correcting the dogmatism that often attends study of the Poetics. The introduction also fully outlines the work's historical influence.

Book Information

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It has been a long time since I studied Greek, and I can hardly comment on the accuracy of the translation except to say that for a modern reader or writer, this is readable, scholarly (very well footnoted) and presented in a legible, durable paperback. Mirabile dictu, some of his observations are archaic, sexist, or unduly academic. But anyone who wants to understand how stories work, and why we humans need to live through fiction, needs to have read this text.

This book is HEAVILY annotated! It's very off-putting. I can still read it but the comments written on every page are pretty distracting. Still, it's a book that needs a conversation around it and I can converse with the previous reader!

Was advertised as "very good," got a library book instead still covered in some kind of plastic wrap, with library markings EVERYWHERE (a huge sticker showing the call number, multiple huge stamps throughout the book more than once). Also there was writing on almost every page. That isn't "very good" condition. .

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