



Tales From Ovid

By Ovid

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A powerful version of the Latin classic by England's late Poet Laureate, now in paperback. When it was published in 1997, *Tales from Ovid* was immediately recognized as a classic in its own right, as the best rering of Ovid in generations, and as a major book in Ted Hughes's oeuvre. The *Metamorphoses of Ovid* stands with the works of Homer, Virgil, Dante, and Milton as a classic of world poetry; Hughes translated twenty-four of its stories with great power and directness. The result is the liveliest twentieth-century version of the classic, at once a delight for the Latinist and an appealing introduction to Ovid for the general reader.

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Tales From Ovid By Ovid Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

England's poet laureate Ted Hughes first turned his hand to Ovid's *Metamorphoses* when he--along with other prominent English-language poets such as Seamus Heaney, Amy Clampitt, and Charles Simic--contributed poems to the anthology *After Ovid*. In the three years following *After Ovid*'s publication, Hughes continued working with the *Metamorphoses*, eventually completing the 24 translations collected here. Culling from 250 original tales, Hughes has chosen some of the most violent and disturbing narratives Ovid wrote, including the stories of Echo and Narcissus, Bacchus and Pentheus, and Semele's rape by Jove. Classical purists may be offended at the occasional liberties Hughes takes with Ovid's words, but no one will quarrel with the force and originality of Hughes's verse, or with its narrative skill. This translation is an unusual triumph--a work informed by the passion and wit of Ovid, yet suffused with Hughes's own distinctive poetic sensibility.

From Library Journal

Hughes, the renowned author of innumerable works of poetry, prose, and children's literature and currently the poet laureate of England, offers a lively, readable, rendering of 24 tales from Ovid's *Metamorphosis*. The translations are unrhymed poems in their own right, but this collection is most welcome for making the most popular book of the classical era?a veritable source-book for writers during the Middle Ages, not to mention Chaucer and Shakespeare?so pleasantly accessible to the general reader. A fine addition to all libraries; highly recommended.?Thomas F. Merrill, Univ. of Delaware, Newark
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Review

"Brilliantly succeeds at bringing Ovid's passionate and disturbing stories to life." ?*James Shapiro, The New York Times Book Review*

"One of the few unquestionable successes in the revolutionary vein Pound opened at the start of the century." ?*Donald Lyons, The Wall Street Journal*

"Hughes is as broad as Ovid and as subtle, as violent and as erotic, as elegant and as folksy-and often all at the same time. It is simply a beautiful match." ?*Michael Hofmann, The Times (London)*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Victoria Manson:

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