

Rome and the Mysterious Orient

THREE PLAYS BY **Plautus**



Translated with Introductions and Notes by
Amy Richlin

Rome And The Mysterious Orient Three Plays By Plautus

Emilia A. Barbiero



Rome And The Mysterious Orient Three Plays By Plautus:

Rome and the Mysterious Orient Titus Maccius Plautus, 2005-12-12 Publisher description Rome and the Mysterious Orient Plautus, 2005-12-12 Still funny after two thousand years the Roman playwright Plautus wrote around 200 B C E a period when Rome was fighting neighbors on all fronts including North Africa and the Near East These three plays originally written for a wartime audience of refugees POWs soldiers and veterans exiles immigrants people newly enslaved in the wars and citizens tap into the mix of fear loathing and curiosity with which cultures particularly Western and Eastern cultures often view each other always a productive source of comedy These current accessible and accurate translations have replaced terms meaningful only to their original audience such as references to Roman gods with a hilarious inspired sampling of American popular culture from songs to movie stars to slang Matching the original Latin line for line this volume captures the full exuberance of Plautus's street language bursting with puns learned allusions ethnic slurs dirty jokes and profanities as it brings three rarely translated works *Weevil Curculio* *Iran Man Persa* and *Towelheads Poenulus* to a wide contemporary audience Richlin's erudite introduction sets these plays within the context of the long history of East West conflict and illuminates the role played by comedy and performance in imperialism and colonialism She has also provided detailed and wide ranging contextual introductions to the individual plays as well as extensive notes which together with these superb and provocative translations will bring Plautus alive for a new generation of readers and actors *Plautus: Cistellaria* Ariana Traill, 2025-09-04 This volume is the first book length introduction to Plautus *Cistellaria* The Jewelry Box offering an incisive overview for both students and scholars coming to it for the first time This play is a story of young lovers defying social norms and disapproving parents in order to be together featuring a memorable cast of characters and moments of both high humor and drama This classic mistaken identity plot includes witty interchanges and a lively conflict of values and ideals Drawing on performance and cultural studies gender and sexuality and philology and intertextuality Ariana Traill combines a lucid exploration of *Cistellaria*'s setting characters plot and themes with detailed analyses of its literary and socio cultural contexts Readers are able to appreciate the play both as a literary artifact with its attendant issues of generic conventions and variations and language and imagery and as a performance script written for a rich tradition of acting singing and stage movement at Rome with its conventional costumes masks and venues With its majority female line up seven of the twelve roles are female *Cistellaria* offers an unusual focus on women's thoughts and feelings as they struggle for their economic and social existence making it a fascinating source for the study of women and gender in ancient Rome The play continues to cast a shadow in the western dramatic tradition through its history of reception and adaptation *A Companion to Plautus* Dorota Dutsch, George Fredric Franko, 2020-03-24 An important addition to contemporary scholarship on Plautus and Plautine comedy provides new essays and fresh insights from leading scholars *A Companion to Plautus* is a collection of original essays on the celebrated Old Latin period playwright A brilliant comic poet Plautus moved beyond

writing Latin versions of Greek plays to create a uniquely Roman cultural experience worthy of contemporary scholarship Contributions by a team of international scholars explore the theatrical background of Roman comedy the theory and practice of Plautus dramatic composition the relation of Plautus works to Roman social history and his influence on later dramatists through the centuries Responding to renewed modern interest in Plautine studies the Companion reassesses Plautus works plays that are meant to be viewed and experienced to reveal new meaning and contemporary relevance Chapters organized thematically offer multiple perspectives on individual plays and enable readers to gain a deeper understanding of Plautus reflection of and influence on Roman society Topics include metatheater and improvisation in Plautus the textual tradition of Plautus trends in Plautus Translation and modern reception in theater and movies Exploring the place of Plautus and Plautine comedy in the Western comic tradition the Companion Addresses the most recent trends in the study of Roman comedy Features discussions on religion imperialism slavery war class gender and sexuality in Plautus work Highlights recent scholarship on representation of socially vulnerable characters Discusses Plautus work in relation to Roman stages actors audience and culture Examines the plot construction characterization and comic techniques in Plautus scripts Part of the acclaimed Blackwell Companions to the Ancient World series A Companion to Plautus is an important resource for scholars instructors and students of both ancient and modern drama comparative literature classics and history particularly Roman history

Roman Drama and its Contexts Stavros Frangoulidis, Stephen J. Harrison, Gesine Manuwald, 2016-03-21 Roman plays have been well studied individually even including fragmentary or spurious ones more recently However they have not always been placed into their context though plays just like items in other literary genres benefit from being seen in context This edited collection aims to address this issue it includes 33 contributions by an international team of scholars discussing single plays or Roman dramatic genres including comedy tragedy and praetexta from both the Republican and imperial periods in contexts such as the literary tradition the relationship to works in other literary genres the historical and social situation the intellectual background or the later reception Overall they offer a rich panorama of the role of Roman drama or individual plays in Roman society and literary history The insights gained thereby will be of relevance to everyone interested in Roman drama or literature more generally comparative literature or drama and theatre studies This contextual approach has the potential of changing the way in which Roman drama is viewed

A Plautus Reader John Henderson, 2009-12-01

Letters in Plautus Emilia A. Barbiero, 2022-12-15 The letters in Plautus are potent tools for making and thinking about Plautine comedy inside Plautine comedy Emilia Barbiero demonstrates that Plautus embedded letters reify the internal performance and evince its theatricality by means of the epistolary medium s script like ability to precipitate presence in absence These missives thus serve as emblems of the dramatic script and in their onstage composition and recitation they cast a portrait of the plays textual origins into the plays themselves But by virtue of their inscription with a premise which is identical to that of the comedies they inhabit the Plautine letters also reproduce the

relationship between the playwright's Greek models and his Latin translations the mirror effect created by a dramatic text inscribed read and realized within a dramatic text whose plot it also duplicates generates a mise en abyme which ultimately serves to contemplate problems of novelty and literary ownership that beset Plautus literary endeavor The Cambridge Companion to Roman Comedy Martin T. Dinter, 2019-04-04 Provides a comprehensive critical engagement with Roman comedy and its reception presented by leading international scholars in accessible and up to date chapters **A**

Companion to Greek Democracy and the Roman Republic Dean Hammer, 2014-11-17 A Companion to Greek Democracy and the Roman Republic offers a comparative approach to examining ancient Greek and Roman participatory communities Explores various aspects of participatory communities through pairs of chapters one Greek one Roman to highlight comparisons between cultures Examines the types of relationships that sustained participatory communities the challenges they faced and how they responded Sheds new light on participatory contexts using diverse methodological approaches Brings an international array of scholars into dialogue with each other 'Casina' by Plautus Catherine Tracy, 2025-08-28 Casina was written for audiences in ancient Rome but tells the story of an Athenian man and his son competing for the affections of a young enslaved woman who was brought up in their household Deception disguise and domestic conflict unfold as the old man's schemes are cleverly thwarted by his wife Likely one of Plautus's later works Casina offers both linguistic challenge and comic brilliance making it ideal for classroom use or independent study This edition features the complete Latin text of the play richly annotated with grammatical and vocabulary notes to support comprehension A clear prose translation accompanies the original offering accessible insight into the humor and intrigue of the play The introduction provides historical and cultural context situating the farce within ancient Athenian and Roman comedic traditions This volume is designed for students with intermediate Latin skills who wish to engage directly with Plautus's lively comic play

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