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Aristotle On Poetics

By Michael Davis

St. Augustines Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 144 pages. Dimensions: 8.0in. x 5.5in. x 0.4in. The original, Aristotles short study of storytelling, written in the fourth century B. C. , is the worlds first critical book about the laws of literature. Sure, its 2400 years old, but Aristotles discussions--Unity of Plot, Reversal of the Situation, Character--though written in the context of ancient Greek Tragedy, Comedy and Epic Poetry, still apply to our modern literary forms. The book is quite short, and Aristotle illuminates his points with clear examples, making the Poetics perfectly readable, the better to impress people at parties when you say, Of course, as Aristotle says. . . This useful book, an extended study of the Poetics , treats such subjects as Aristotles general aesthetic views; mimesis; pity, fear, and katharsis; recognition, reversal, and hamartia; tragic misfortune; the nontragic genres; and the historical influence of the work. Aristotle emerges as holding a deeply cognitivist view of poetry and as rejecting the attempt to judge art primarily by external (e. g. , moral, political) criteria; his call for the relative autonomy of art, however, neither commits him to an aestheticist view nor prevents him from attributing to art a...



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