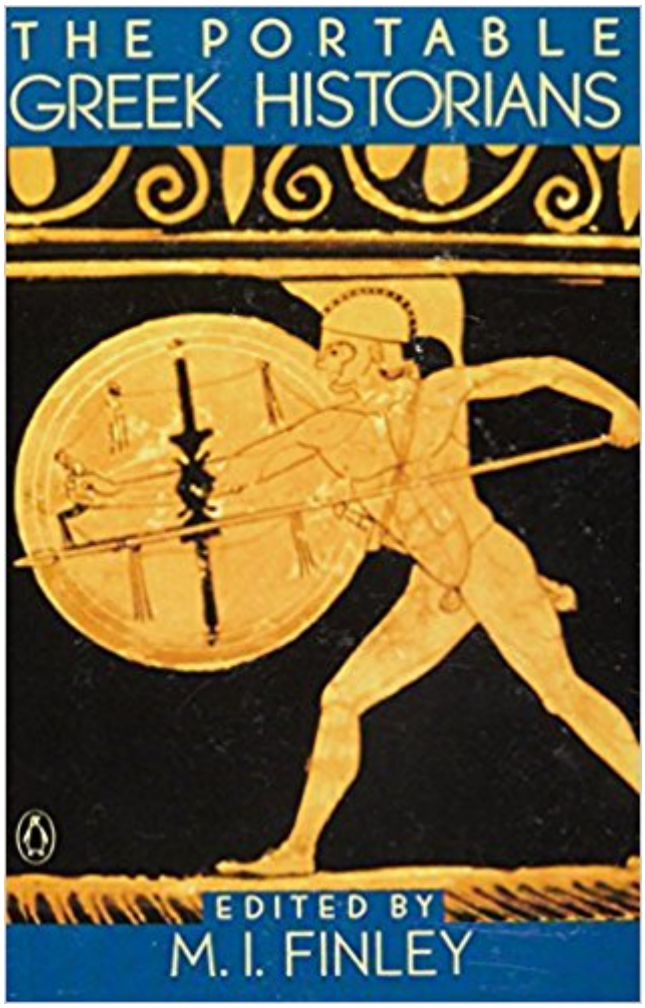
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The Portable Greek Historians: The Essence Of Herodotus, Thucydides, Xenophon, Polybius (Viking Portable Library)



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Synopsis

Essential passages from the works of four "fathers of history"—Herodotus’s History, Thucydides’ History of the Peloponnesian War, Xenophon’s Anabasis, and Polybius’s Histories.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

M. I. Finley was a professor of ancient history and master of Darwin College, Cambridge. He died in 1986.

A collection of excerpts from Herodotus, Thucydides, Xenophon and Polybius. The selection takes us from the history of the Pelopenessian war, through the attempted Athenian conquest of Sicily, the Persian civil wars and up to the Roman conquest. The narration and commentary by M.I. Finley is probably a bit too brief for the reader not familiar with the Greeks, and yest is probably not necessary for the true scholar. The translations are easy to digest and written in very approachable English. All in all, the book is 500+ pages of Greek history by four great writers, but the set up and the commentary are too sparse to make it a great read for the non-scholar.

Enjoyed it immensel. Very well done.

I got this book for a class I am taking. It’s a good book, fascinating for those who like ancient Greek and Roman history, but it can be hard to get through at times.

Fast Ship Good Price

Some of these old guys are hilarious

well put togetherunderstandableand will hold ones interestwould recormend to buyand it is a history primer any student would appreciate

I originally purchased this book when I started college to prepare for my Senior Oral Exam, I skimmed but didn't really retain much of each writer's style save perhaps Herodotus. After thoroughly reading the excerpted selections for these four writers, I can say the my decision to skim it originally was the correct one. If M. I. Finley, the selector of this volume, gave an accurate representation of each writer through the excerpts he chose then Herodotus and Xenophon are the best readings while Thucydides gets bogged down in speeches and Polybius in the discourse of governmental comparisons. However if the excerpts aren't representative of each writer than the fault is with Finley.

0 stars!! The book was a fake reprint. Half of the book was correct, but midway through the pages were upside down and the sentences cut off the pages.

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