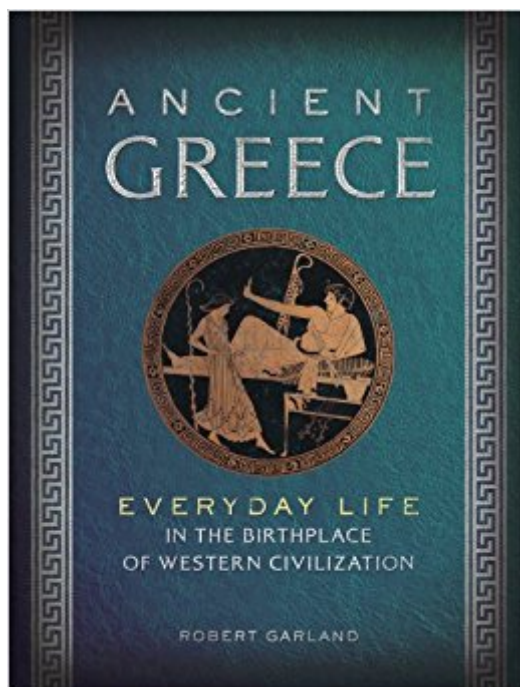


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Ancient Greece: Everyday Life In The Birthplace Of Western Civilization



Synopsis

À À Ancient Greece comes alive in this vibrant portrait of the daily lives of ordinary people—men and women, children and the elderly, slaves and foreigners, rich and poor. Robert Garland presents a wealth of fascinating, sometimes surprising information about our spiritual, cultural, and intellectual ancestors during this influential period. Did Greeks share our notion of romantic love? How stable was the family? How did they relax? What did they eat? Why was it more desirable to be a slave than a day laborer? Were they really more cultivated than we are? À À Unique and descriptive, the attractive volume includes images throughout, as well as maps. À À

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review COMBINED REVIEW with Ancient Egypt: Everyday Life in the Land of the Nile
--Muhammed Hassanali

Robert Garland is the Roy D. and Margaret B. Wooster Professor of the Classics at Colgate University. He is the author of many books, including *The Greek Way of Death* (Cornell University Press), *The Greek Way of Life* (University of Michigan Press), and *Julius Caesar* (Liverpool University Press). He lives in Hamilton, NY.

If you're looking to learn what it might have been like to hang out at the Agora and have lunch,

maybe serve on a jury, and then head off to a symposium before bedtime, this is the book for you. An excellent and detailed look at the everyday life of the ancient Greek/Athenian. Very, very interesting and very accessible.

A wonderful survey of the mores, morals and morale of the ancient Greeks, from birth to death. Prof. Garland explains why he highlights the Athenians and Spartans.

Excellent read, and well-written.

Extremely well-written, does not talk down to reader. Bit overmuch on war and mythology, other sections excellent.

Excellent book. I totally recommend it.

This book is a must read if you are interested in any topic that at least barely relates to Ancient Greece. It has in-depth data and information, at the same time that its layout presents a formidable and pleasurable experience. There are several takeaways from this book, among which the following may be found. First, Greece and the people living in what we now conceive as Ancient Greece were human beings in the every day use of the term. They had worries, fears, health problems, practical issues, etc. This may be common sense as it reads if it was not for the fact that Ancient Greece is many times put at a level that appears unachievable to the human race and only comparable to godlike figures. This insight will ring true to any student of Philosophy. Second, this did not prevent the people from Greece from being advanced in their thought systems and in their cultural potential. Some of the mythos-logos thought systems are alien to our own. We are unable to abstract and concretize simultaneously, at least consciously. We may be able to achieve some of it, but at the risk of becoming paranoid or of being considered irrational. Finally, the author purports in a very clear way the challenge that represents to compare the political and social structures of ancient times to our current ideals, for instance in regards to individual rights. Positions of unfairness and the like are detrimental to the study of ancient peoples because their thought systems are unequal to our current standards. This does not provoke the fast track moral decision that reads that relativity should be the leading system, but far from it, that in order to study History it is necessary to entertain value judgments different to ours. To add to the author, if we do not fulfill our enterprise this way, the exercise of studying ancient peoples will render no value, this being a typical and

unsolved inquiry into the science of History. A must read and a superb book!! I hope to find more titles from Robert Garland.

Fantastic book! Dr. Garland is a fantastic guide through the ancient world- ancient Greece in particular. The book is packed with wonderful information, arranged in helpful sections that move the reader through an interesting and well connected pace. I can't recommend this book, or Dr. Garland's Great Courses lectures enough.

Checked this out from the library, contains a lot of info on ancient Greece and it laid out in a great way. The writing engages you and keeps you interested. Would recommend.

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