

W. R. Paton

The Greek Anthology, Volume I

Books 1-5

A gathering of poetic blossoms. *The Greek Anthology* contains some 4,500 short Greek poems in the sparkling and diverse genre of epigram, written by more than a hundred poets and collected over many centuries. To the original collection, called the *Garland (Stephanus)* by its contributing editor, Meleager of Gadara (first century BC), was added another *Garland*, by Philip of Thessalonica (mid-first century AD) and then a *Cycle* by Agathias of Myrina (AD 567/8). In about AD 900 these collections (now lost) and perhaps others (also lost, by Rufinus, Diogenianus, Strato, and Palladas) were partly incorporated and arranged into fifteen books according to subject by Constantine Cephalas; most of his collection is preserved in a manuscript called the *Palatine Anthology*. A second manuscript, the *Planudean Anthology* made by Maximus Planudes in 1301, contains additional epigrams omitted by Cephalas. Outstanding among the poets are Meleager, Antipater of Sidon, Crinagoras, Palladas, Agathias, and Paulus Silentiarius. This Loeb edition of *The Greek Anthology* replaces the earlier edition by W. R. Paton, with a Greek text and ample notes reflecting current scholarship. Volume I contains the following: Book 1. Christian Epigrams; Book 2. Description of the Statues in the Gymnasium of Zeuxippos; Book 3. Epigrams in the Temple of Apollonis at Cyzicus; Book 4. Prefaces to Various Anthologies; Book 5. Erotic Epigrams.

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32,00 €

29,91 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9780674996885
Medium: Buch
ISBN: 978-0-674-99688-5
Verlag: Harvard University Press
Erscheinungstermin: 20.10.2014
Sprache(n): Englisch
Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2014
Serie: Loeb Classical Library
Produktform: Gebunden
Gewicht: 347 g
Seiten: 480
Format (B x H): 111 x 170 mm

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19.07.2024 | 19:33 Uhr

