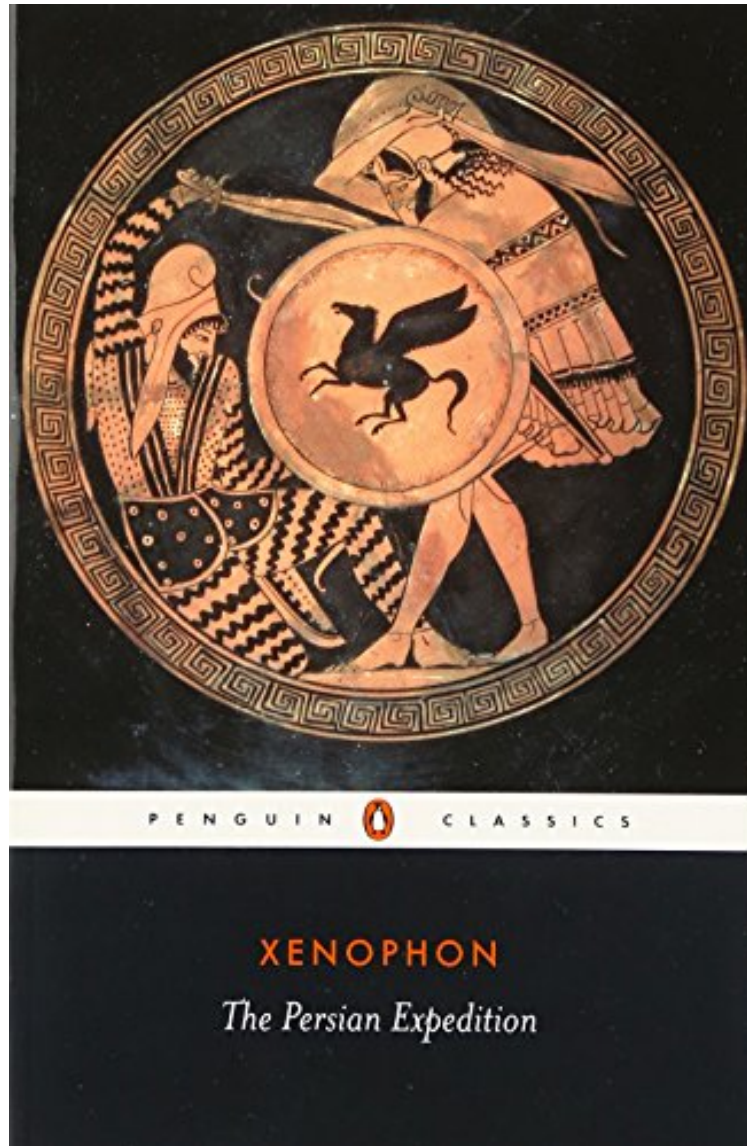


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## The Persian Expedition (Penguin Classics)

*Xenophon*

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#160768 in Books Xenophon 1950-06-30 1950-06-30Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:Ancient GreekPDF # 1 7.80 x .90 x 5.10l, .64 #File Name: 0140440070384 pagesThe Persian Expedition | File size: 24.Mb

**Xenophon : The Persian Expedition (Penguin Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Persian Expedition (Penguin Classics):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An unparalleled glimpse of the frontiers of the western world as they existed from 401 -399 B.C.By Anthony DeGuerreI picked up this book, as it was referenced in Victor David Hanson's "Carnage and Culture", and I wanted the first hand experience of reading the text. My only previous experience

reading Greek literature was the Iliad in high school, which I enjoyed, but found to be a bit dry at times. I was pleasantly surprised by how much I enjoyed this book. This translation of the Persian Expedition, by Rex Warner, was a page turner! It brings to life the hardships and triumphs faced by Greek soldiers in antiquity and offers an unparalleled glimpse of the frontiers of the western world as they existed from 401 -399 B.C.\*\*\*CAUTION-SPOILER AHEAD\*\*\*The Persian Expedition is the story of 10,000 Greek mercenaries who have been hired by Cyrus the younger to dethrone his brother, Artaxerxes, from the Persian throne. The plan to dethrone Artaxerxes comes to a halt when the Greek's benefactor, Cyrus, is killed in the opening skirmishes of the battle of Cunaxa, outside of Babylon, in the heart of the Persian Empire. With Cyrus dead, and their military campaign at an end, the Greeks attempt to negotiate safe passage out of the Persian Empire with one of Artaxerxes' generals. In the course of the negotiation, the Greeks are betrayed and their generals captured and killed. Rising up to fill the void in leadership, Xenophon, a pious Athenian noble, attains a position of prominence in the army and leads the 10,000 out of Persia. Facing hostile tribes, political infighting, freezing cold, and a shortage of supplies the 10,000's eventually make their way to Thrace, where they are re-hired by Sparta to fight for Greek interests in Asia.\*\*\*END SPOILER\*\*\*Overall, I would recommend this book for anyone seeking an in-road into Greek history. Also, anyone with an interest in Biblical history can enjoy: the Greek march through Nineveh (400 years after Jonah); and have a sense of the world inhabited by Esther (478 B.C.), Ezra (458 B.C.), Nehemiah (445 B.C.) and Malachai (433 B.C.).

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. ... translation of Anabasis by Rex Warner is probably the best I have found  
By Ray Newman  
This translation of Anabasis by Rex Warner is probably the best I have found. His wording is clear, concise, and contemporary. The introduction is as thought provoking as his translation phrase and word choice. It is also one of the most informative discussions on the distinctions regarding Greek and Persian culture in Xenophon's time. This is a keeper.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good historic read for cheap  
By Chris  
I had always heard of Xenophon's 10,000 Greeks marching out of Persia back to Greece but had never read specifics until now. While this story can get tedious at times (constant references to how far they travel each day, etc) it is a fascinating look into the ancient world. The fact that Persia employed a large number of Greeks is testimony to the superiority of Greek heavy infantry in this part of the world at this time. However, the story also discusses the military shortcomings of the Greeks in detail. Great primary source resource for about a buck. You can't beat that.

Xenophon's epic march into the heart of Persia has stirred the imagination of free men for centuries. Possibly written from diaries compiled at the time, there is no doubt that The Persian Expedition is one of the best pictures we have of Greeks confronting the 'barbarian' world. We see the soldiers debate leaders and strategy in open assembly; we see them falling on their knees in superstitious fear; we see them planning a piratical colony on barbarian land. And at the same time we share the rigors of the march to Babylon, the dismay of unexpected defeat, the uncertainty of the long road home through wild Armenia, and the relief at last when the Ten Thousand reach 'the sea, the sea!'.

Language Notes  
Text: English, Greek (translation)  
About the Author  
Xenophon was an Athenian country gentleman born about 430 BC. He may have helped to publish Thucydides' History, and certainly wrote his own Hellenica as a continuation of it. By his own (probably reliable) account he was a fine officer and outstanding leader, but his admiration for Sparta and devotion to Socrates, among other causes, led to his banishment. He was given an estate at Scillus and settled down to enjoy the life of a landed aristocrat, and it was during this period that he began to write histories, biographies, memoirs and specialist treatises. The defeat of Sparta in 371 forced him to move to Corinth where he probably lived for the rest of his life.

Rex Warner was a Professor of the University of Connecticut from 1964 until his retirement in He was born in 1905 and went to Wadham College, Oxford, where he gained a 'first' in Classical Moderations, and took a degree in English Literature. He taught in Egypt and England, and was Director of the British Institute, Athens, from 1945 to 1947. He has written poems, novels and critical essays, has worked on films and broadcasting, and has translated many works, of which Xenophon's History of My Time and The Persian Expedition, Thucydides' The Peloponnesian War, and Plutarch's Lives (under the title Fall of the Roman Republic) and Moral Essays have been published in Penguin Classics.

George Cawkwell is a Fellow and Praelector in Ancient History of University College, Oxford. He has specialized in the history of the fourth century B.C.