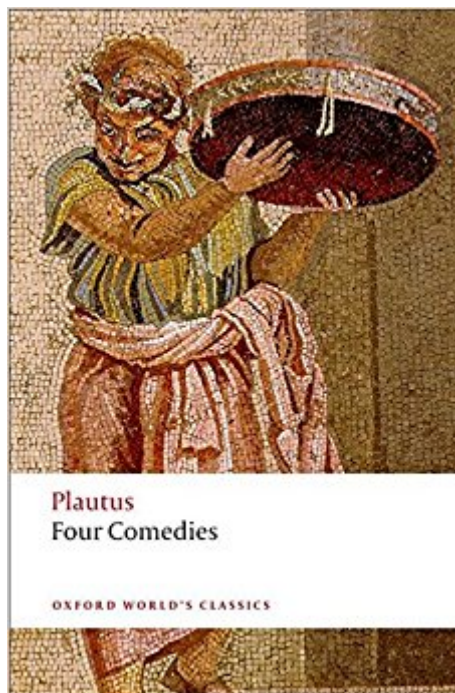


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Synopsis

Plautus was the single greatest influence on Western comedy. In fact, Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors* and Moliere's *the Miser* are two subsequent classics directly based on Plautine originals. Plautus himself borrowed from the Greeks, but his jokes, rapid dialogue, bawdy humor, and irreverent characterizations are the original work of an undisputed genius. The comedies printed here show him at his best, and Professor Segal's translations keep their fast, rollicking pace intact, making these the most readable andactable versions available. This volume includes, *The Braggart Soldier*, *e Brothers Menaechmus*, *The Haunted House*, and *The Pot of Gold*. About the Series: For over 100 years Oxford World's Classics has made available the broadest spectrum of literature from around the globe. Each affordable volume reflects Oxford's commitment to scholarship, providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features, including expert introductions by leading authorities, voluminous notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

Book Information

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As seems to be Plautus's theme, most of the characters (at least, the heroes) are slaves. His love for slaves is endearing, but his misogyny quickly grows tiresome and his oafish citizens are, well, oafish. If you're tired of Shakespeare and you want real theatrical literature, "Four Comedies" by Plautus might be the place to go. The translation is beautifully worded with an almost lyrical style, clever word-play, and lots of witticisms.

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