

Republic - the Odyssey of philosophy

Paul Dry Books - The Republic: The Odyssey of Philosophy by Jacob Howland, Paperback



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PlatoRepublic - the Odyssey of philosophy

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The Republic: The Odyssey of Philosophy

Subsequent passages confirm Xenophon's interest in participating in military and political decisions 2. In explicating the fragility of order among the Ten Thousand, the absence of a common good that transcends self-defense, and thus the attenuated sense in which even this extraordinary political body exemplifies justice, the Anabasis makes explicit a lesson about the limits of politics that is implicit in the Republic.

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Yet it will also intrigue those looking for further, responsible light on apparently well-worn paths. In antiquity, Xenophon was widely admired as a man of considerable parts, whose virtues of intellect and character were displayed in a noble harmony of speech and deed.

JACOB HOWLAND, The Republic: the Odyssey of Philosophy (New York, Twayne Publishers, 1993), pp. xiv + 187, \$22.95 (hbk) and \$7.95 (pbk). ISBN 0 8057 8354 7 (hbk) and 0 8057 8378 4 (Pbk). in: Polis: The Journal for Ancient Greek and Roman Political Thought Volume 14 Issue 1

The myth of Er ends when Er awakens on his funeral pyre at dawn Republic 621b ; as it happens, it is probably around dawn when Socrates finishes telling Er's tale at the very end of the Republic.

Republic: The Odyssey of Philosophy by Jacob Howland (Paperback, 2004) for sale online

Like Cyrus, Seuthes lives by plundering his own lands 7.

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Zeus's light, furthermore, signifies nothing more than the promise of intelligibility; it is at best an invitation to reflection, not an answer in itself. As this passage makes clear, it is through internal dialogue that Xenophon is able to arrive at an understanding of what must be done. The line between eros and thumos becomes blurred insofar as spiritedness is intrinsic to strong erotic attraction.

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A most inviting, helpful reading. It is in terms of this motion that we must understand both Socrates' katabasis at the beginning of the Republic and the action of the dialogue as a whole.

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Leo Strauss and Joseph Cropsey.

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