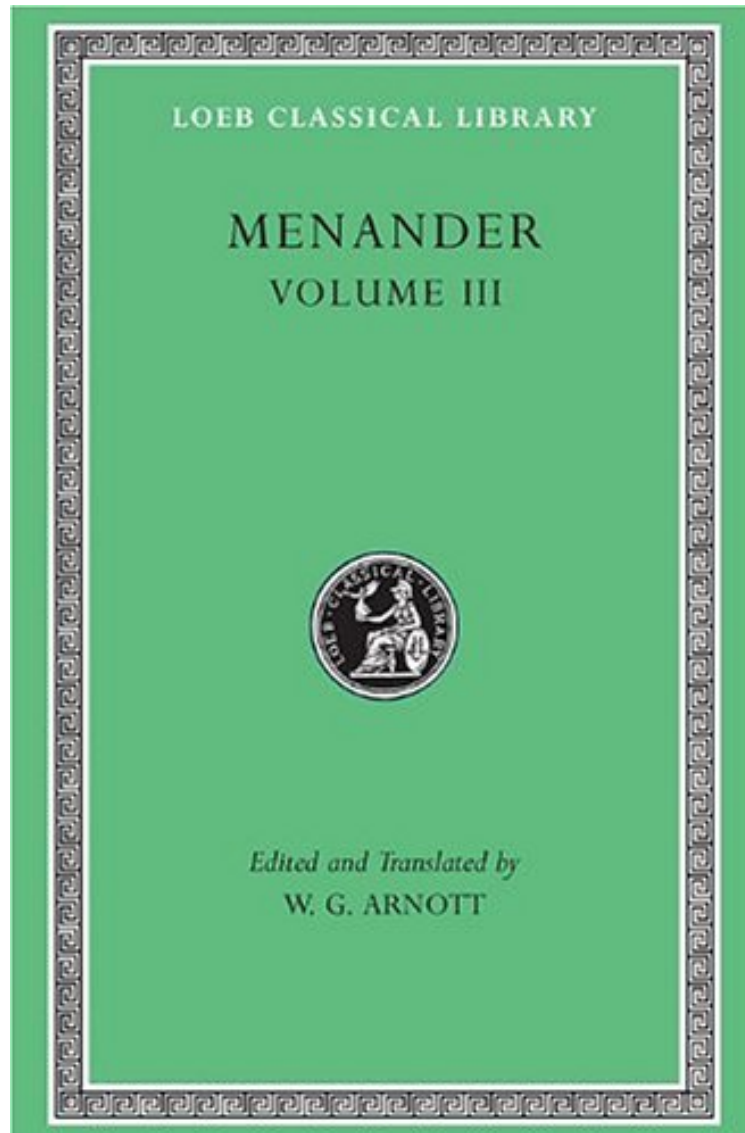


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Menander : Menander: Samia, Sikyonioi, Synaristosai, Phasma, Unidentified Fragments. Volume III (Loeb Classical Library No. 460) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Menander: Samia, Sikyonioi, Synaristosai, Phasma, Unidentified Fragments. Volume III (Loeb Classical Library No. 460):

4 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Comparing Loeb edition to Oxford edition of Menander's works
By stephen liem
In this review I will compare the three volume Loeb edition of Menander's works and the Oxford World's Classics edition. ("Menander" v1,v2,v3 Loeb Classical Library, trans: W.G.Arnott// "Menander: The Plays and Fragments" Oxford World's Classics, trans: Maurice Balme).
Loeb edition: Loeb series contain both Greek and English translations. The translation is good. All of Menander's works (with the exception of Dyskolos) are incomplete, fragmented, and there are a lot of missing lines. Loeb's approach is to leave the missing lines as they are. Instead Arnott added a note on what the missing lines would be. So from a readability perspective, reading this edition can be very challenging especially for those works that are extremely fragmented. The value of this edition is in the Greek text and the original translation as-is. It will cater better to the purists who want to read the original Greek text.
Oxford edition: The translation is equally good. In this edition Balme decided to supply the missing lines with what he thinks should have been there. As a result, it is highly readable and flows very nicely even for those works that are highly fragmented (for example the Sikyonios). For those who are purists, this edition may be highly speculative and may disagree with the supplied missing lines. But, for the rest of us who simply want to enjoy Menander's works, this edition is preferable to the Loeb edition.

This volume completes the Loeb Classical Library's new edition of the leading writer of New Comedy. W. G. Arnott, an internationally recognized Menander expert, provides a Greek text based on careful study of recently discovered papyri, a facing translation that is lucid and fits today's tastes, and full explanatory notes. So influential in antiquity--his plays were adapted for the Roman stage by Plautus and Terence--Menander's comic art can now be fully known and enjoyed. It is a comedy that focuses on the hazards of love and trials of family life. This volume begins with *Samia* (The Woman from Samos), which has come down to us nearly complete. Here too are the very substantial extant portions of *Sikyonioi* (The Sicyonians) and *Phasma* (The Apparition) as well as *Synaristosai* (Women Lunching Together), on which Plautus's *Cistellaria* (The Casket Comedy) was based. The volume also includes a selection of papyrus fragments attributed to Menander. Arnott's edition of the great Hellenistic playwright has been garnering wide praise for making these fragmentary texts more accessible to readers, elucidating their dramatic movement. In the words of David Konstan (writing in *Scholia Reviews*): "An excellent guide to Menander...Arnott has given us fine texts, clear translations, brief and useful introductions."

An excellent guide to Menander...Arnott has given us fine texts, clear translations, brief and useful introductions, and the help that is needed to make sense [of the] fragments. (David Konstan *Scholia*)
About the Author
W. G. Arnott is Emeritus Professor of Greek, University of Leeds, and a Fellow of the British Academy.