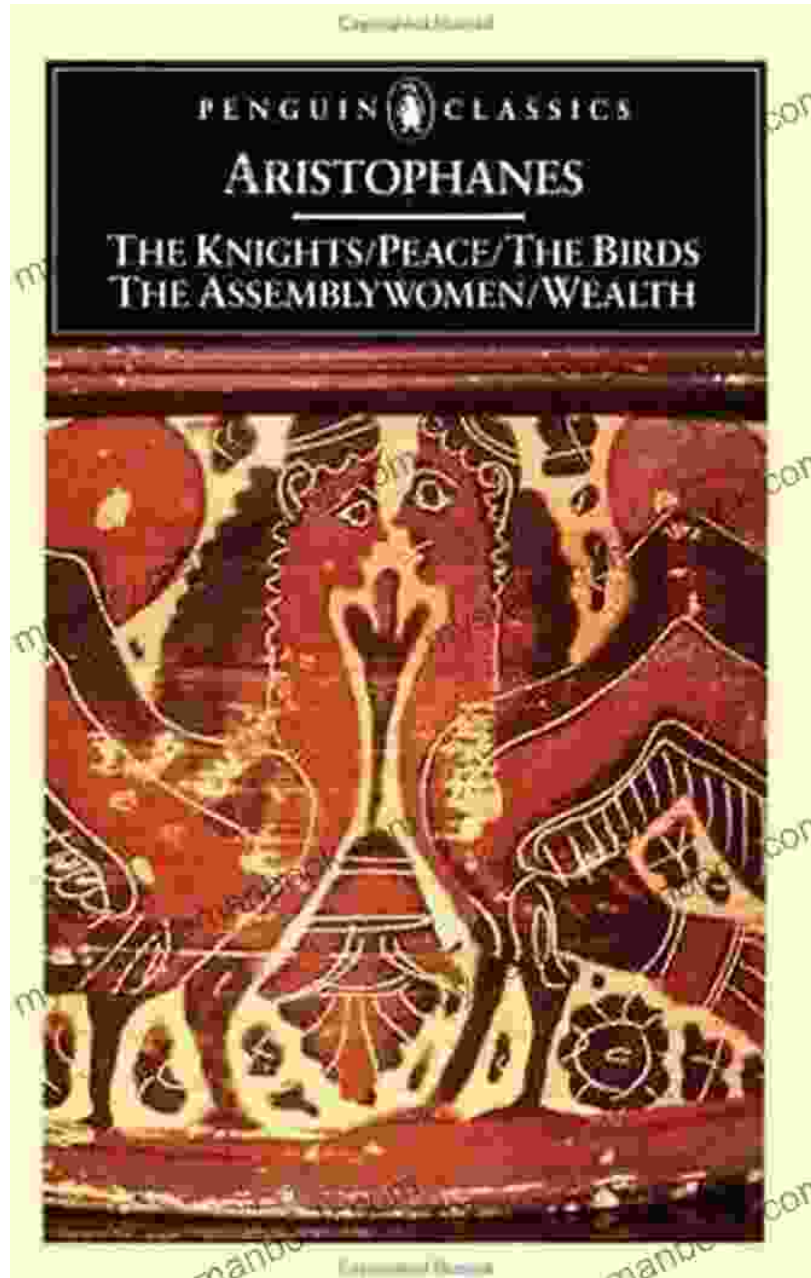
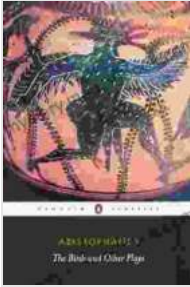


# The Knights, Peace, Wealth, The Assembly, Women: Penguin Classics



**The Birds and Other Plays: The Knights/Peace/Wealth/The Assembly Women (Penguin Classics)** by Aristophanes

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5



Language : English  
File size : 582 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 340 pages



## **The Knights, Peace, Wealth, The Assembly, Women**

**By Aristophanes**

Translated by Alan H. Sommerstein

**Publisher:** Penguin Classics

**Publication Date:** 1973

: 9780140444180

**Pages:** 288

**Genre:** Greek Comedy

### **A Literary Masterpiece: Aristophanes' Timeless Comedies**

Aristophanes, the renowned Greek playwright of the 5th century BCE, is celebrated for his incisive wit and biting social commentary. This Penguin Classics edition brings together five of his most celebrated comedies: 'The Knights,' 'Peace,' 'Wealth,' 'The Assembly,' and 'Women.' These plays offer a captivating window into the political, social, and intellectual landscape of ancient Athens, exploring timeless themes that resonate with readers today.

## **'The Knights'**

A riotous satire on Athenian politics, 'The Knights' skewers the demagogue Cleon and his corrupt cohorts. The play's protagonist, a disgruntled sausage-seller, rallies the people to overthrow Cleon and restore order to the city-state.

## **'Peace'**

In 'Peace,' Aristophanes envisions a world free from war and conflict. The play follows the farmer Trygaeus as he ascends to Mount Olympus to negotiate a peace treaty with the gods. Set against the backdrop of the Peloponnesian War, 'Peace' offers a poignant and hopeful vision of a warless society.

## **'Wealth'**

'Wealth' centers on the god Plutus, the personification of wealth, who has been blinded by Zeus to prevent him from favoring the wicked. The play follows Chremylus, a poor but honest man, as he attempts to restore Plutus's sight and distribute wealth more equitably among the Athenians.

## **'The Assembly'**

A clever subversion of gender roles, 'The Assembly' imagines a world where women take over the government of Athens. Praxagora, a resourceful and intelligent woman, proposes a radical plan to establish a communist society where all resources are shared equally.

## **'Women'**

In 'Women,' Aristophanes tackles the issue of women's rights and the double standards that existed in Athenian society. The play follows

Lysistrata, a determined woman, as she leads a sex strike to force the men to end the Peloponnesian War.

## Aristophanes' Legacy

Aristophanes' comedies remain relevant centuries after their creation. His sharp wit, incisive social commentary, and timeless themes continue to entertain and provoke readers. This Penguin Classics edition provides an accessible and authoritative translation of these masterpieces, allowing contemporary audiences to appreciate the brilliance of Aristophanes' work.



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