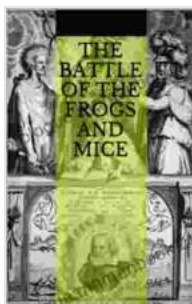


The Battle of the Frogs and Mice: An Epic Animal War

The Battle of the Frogs and Mice is an ancient Greek mock-epic poem that tells the tale of a war between frogs and mice. The poem is attributed to Homer, but its actual author is unknown. It is believed to have been written in the 6th or 5th century BC.

The poem is written in dactylic hexameter, the same meter used in Homer's Iliad and Odyssey. It is divided into three books, each of which contains about 300 lines.

The Battle of the Frogs and Mice is a parody of the Iliad, and it shares many of the same characters and plot elements. However, the poem is also full of humor and absurdity, and it is clear that the author did not intend it to be taken seriously.



The Battle of the Frogs and Mice by Antonia Pozzi

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 269 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 23 pages
Item Weight : 2.11 ounces

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The poem begins with a council of frogs, who are debating whether or not to go to war with the mice. The frogs are led by their king, Physignathus, and the mice are led by their king, Psicharpax.

The frogs decide to go to war, and they march on the mice's city. The mice are outnumbered, but they are more agile and cunning than the frogs. They use their small size to their advantage, and they are able to inflict heavy casualties on the frogs.

The battle rages for several days, and neither side is able to gain a clear advantage. Finally, the frogs are defeated when their king, Physignathus, is killed by the mouse general, Crumbcrusher.

With their king dead, the frogs retreat in disorder. The mice are victorious, and they celebrate their victory with a feast.

The main characters in the Battle of the Frogs and Mice are:

- **Physignathus**, the king of the frogs
- **Psicharpax**, the king of the mice
- **Crumbcrusher**, the mouse general who kills Physignathus
- **Piggywiggy**, a frog who is killed by Crumbcrusher
- **Littleleap**, a mouse who is killed by Physignathus
- **Hopalong**, a frog who is killed by Psicharpax
- **Nippy**, a mouse who is killed by Hopalong
- **Wiggletail**, a frog who is killed by Nippy

The Battle of the Frogs and Mice is a comedy, but it also contains some serious themes. These themes include:

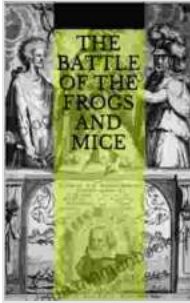
- **The futility of war**
- **The power of small things**
- **The importance of courage and determination**

The Battle of the Frogs and Mice has been translated into many languages and has been adapted into several plays, operas, and ballets. The poem has also been the subject of numerous scholarly studies.

The Battle of the Frogs and Mice is a classic work of Greek literature, and it continues to be enjoyed by readers today. The poem's humor and absurdity make it a delightful read, but its serious themes give it a timeless quality.

- The Battle of the Frogs and Mice is one of the earliest known examples of a mock-epic poem.
- The poem has been praised for its wit, humor, and clever use of language.
- The Battle of the Frogs and Mice has been translated into English by several different translators, including Alexander Pope, George Chapman, and Ezra Pound.
- There are several different editions of the Battle of the Frogs and Mice available in print and online.

- The poem has been the subject of several scholarly studies, including David Ferry's *The Frogs and the Mice* (1988) and John Henderson's *The Battle of the Frogs and Mice: A Homeric Mock-Epic* (2004).



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