



The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives

By Jeffrey Beneker

Download now

Read Online 

The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives By Jeffrey Beneker

The Passionate Statesman explores the intersection of passion and politics in Plutarch's *Parallel Lives*, with special emphasis on how he represents the influence of *eros*, or erotic desire, on the careers of some of the most prominent statesmen from Greco-Roman antiquity.

Using Aristotle's notion of friendship and Plato's conception of the soul to describe the ideal marriage as based on a mutual love of character (*philia*), supported by an enduring erotic attraction, Beneker examines how Plutarch applied his system of ethics both to his reading of history and to his writing of biography.

With close readings focusing on the three pairs of biographies from *Parallel Lives*, namely the Greek kings (Alexander the Great, Demetrius "the besieger," and Agesilaus) and Roman statesmen (Julius Caesar, Pompey, and Marc Antony), the book draws a general conclusion about how Plutarch uses the narration of his subjects' private erotic affairs to interpret their historical deeds.

 [Download The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plu ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in P ...pdf](#)

The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives

By Jeffrey Beneker

The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives By Jeffrey Beneker

The Passionate Statesman explores the intersection of passion and politics in Plutarch's *Parallel Lives*, with special emphasis on how he represents the influence of *eros*, or erotic desire, on the careers of some of the most prominent statesmen from Greco-Roman antiquity.

Using Aristotle's notion of friendship and Plato's conception of the soul to describe the ideal marriage as based on a mutual love of character (*philia*), supported by an enduring erotic attraction, Beneker examines how Plutarch applied his system of ethics both to his reading of history and to his writing of biography.

With close readings focusing on the three pairs of biographies from *Parallel Lives*, namely the Greek kings (Alexander the Great, Demetrius "the besieger," and Agesilaus) and Roman statesmen (Julius Caesar, Pompey, and Marc Antony), the book draws a general conclusion about how Plutarch uses the narration of his subjects' private erotic affairs to interpret their historical deeds.

The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives By Jeffrey Beneker Bibliography

- Rank: #5309801 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Oxford University Press
- Published on: 2012-07-05
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 5.70" h x .90" w x 8.60" l, 1.00 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 272 pages

 [Download The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plu ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in P ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online **The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives** By **Jeffrey Beneker**

Editorial Review

Review

eminently readable and mercifully concise ... Beneker presents a convincing analysis of Plutarch's treatment of eros in the *Lives*, with careful judgements on his treatment of source material, enlightening philological comments on individual passages, and, above all, an innovative, illuminating interpretative framework. As such, he has proven himself to be a worthy disciple of his supervisor Philip Stadter. * Lieve Van Hoof, sehepunkte * I recommend Beneker's book as an excellent resource not just for scholars and students of Plutarch, but for anyone interested in Greek politics and ethics. * Sophia Xenophontos, CJ-Online * One of the great strengths of the book is the clarity with which the arguments are developed, particularly when negotiating episodes already well examined in scholarship. By pursuing the angle that Plutarch viewed erotic relationships as a weathervane for the psychological disposition of his subjects, Beneker has illuminated further Plutarch's historical-ethical approach to writing lives, has added greatly to an understanding of his method, his use of sources, and his practice of *inventio*, and has presented new and important readings of episodes in the *Lives*. * Noreen Humble, Phoenix *

About the Author

Jeffrey Beneker is currently Associate Professor of Classics at the University of Wisconsin. He has published several articles on Plutarch's *Lives* and on other aspects of the ancient biographical tradition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Edward Salazar:

In other case, little individuals like to read book *The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives*. You can choose the best book if you love reading a book. Given that we know about how is important a new book *The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives*. You can add information and of course you can around the world by a book. Absolutely right, mainly because from book you can know everything! From your country until foreign or abroad you can be known. About simple thing until wonderful thing you can know that. In this era, we could open a book or perhaps searching by internet unit. It is called e-book. You should use it when you feel bored to go to the library. Let's examine.

Roger Lindsey:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in each and every way. By being competitive today, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice by simply surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated that for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a e-book your ability to survive enhance then having chance to stand up than other is high. In your case who want to start reading a new book, we give you this *The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives* book as beginner and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Jeannie Brenner:

This book untitled *The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives* to be one of several books that best seller in this year, here is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy that book in the book retail store or you can order it by using online. The publisher on this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more easily to read this book, as you can read this book in your Cell phone. So there is no reason to you to past this publication from your list.

Cathy Kerby:

Do you have something that that suits you such as book? The guide lovers usually prefer to choose book like comic, brief story and the biggest an example may be novel. Now, why not seeking *The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives* that give your pleasure preference will be satisfied through reading this book. Reading routine all over the world can be said as the method for people to know world much better then how they react towards the world. It can't be explained constantly that reading routine only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to be success person. So , for all of you who want to start reading as your good habit, you can pick *The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives* become your personal starter.

Download and Read Online *The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives* By Jeffrey Beneker #LM6HAY83KEJ

Read The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives By Jeffrey Beneker for online ebook

The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives By Jeffrey Beneker Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives By Jeffrey Beneker books to read online.

Online The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives By Jeffrey Beneker ebook PDF download

The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives By Jeffrey Beneker Doc

The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives By Jeffrey Beneker Mobipocket

The Passionate Statesman: Eros and Politics in Plutarch's Lives By Jeffrey Beneker EPub