# The Thebaid: A Modern Retelling of A Greek Myth by Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti

The Thebaid is a modern retelling of the ancient Greek myth of Oedipus, written by Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti. The play follows the story of Oedipus, a young man who is destined to kill his father and marry his mother. The play explores themes of fate, free will, and the power of the gods.

	The Thebaid	by Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti	
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Bhatti's Thebaid is a powerful and moving play that has been praised for its insights into the human condition. The play has been performed around the world and has been translated into several languages.

### **Plot Summary**

The Thebaid tells the story of Oedipus, a young man who is destined to kill his father and marry his mother. Oedipus is born to King Laius and Queen Jocasta of Thebes. Laius, who has been warned by the oracle that his son will kill him, orders the baby Oedipus to be killed. However, the servant who is ordered to kill Oedipus takes pity on him and leaves him to die on a mountainside.

Oedipus is found by a shepherd and raised as his own son. When Oedipus grows up, he learns of the prophecy that he will kill his father and marry his mother. Horrified, Oedipus flees from his home, only to encounter his father on the road. In a fit of rage, Oedipus kills his father, not knowing who he is.

Oedipus then arrives in Thebes and solves the riddle of the Sphinx, which has been terrorizing the city. As a reward, Oedipus is given the throne of Thebes and marries Queen Jocasta. However, Oedipus's happiness is short-lived. A plague strikes Thebes, and the oracle reveals that the plague is a punishment for the murder of Laius.

Oedipus investigates the murder and eventually learns the truth about his past. Horrified, Oedipus blinds himself and goes into exile. He is accompanied by his daughter Antigone, who remains loyal to him until the end.

#### Themes

The Thebaid explores a number of themes, including:

- Fate and free will: The play raises questions about the extent to which our lives are determined by fate and the extent to which we have free will. Oedipus is destined to kill his father and marry his mother, but he could have chosen to avoid this fate if he had not been so quick to anger.
- The power of the gods: The play also explores the power of the gods. The gods are responsible for the prophecy that Oedipus will kill

his father and marry his mother. They are also responsible for the plague that strikes Thebes. The play suggests that the gods are allpowerful and that they can control our lives in ways that we cannot understand.

 The human condition: The Thebaid is ultimately a play about the human condition. The play explores the themes of suffering, guilt, and redemption. Oedipus is a tragic figure who is punished for his sins, but he is also a human being who is capable of great love and compassion.

### **Critical Reception**

The Thebaid has been praised by critics for its insights into the human condition. The play has been described as "a powerful and moving work that explores the timeless themes of fate, free will, and the power of the gods." The play has also been praised for its strong characters and its beautiful language.

The Thebaid has been performed around the world and has been translated into several languages. The play is a popular choice for schools and universities, and it is also performed by professional theater companies. The play continues to be relevant today, as it explores themes that are still relevant to the human condition.

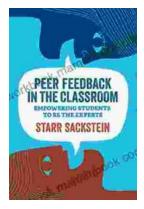
The Thebaid is a powerful and moving play that explores the timeless themes of fate, free will, and the power of the gods. The play is a modern retelling of the ancient Greek myth of Oedipus, and it offers a unique perspective on this classic story. The Thebaid is a must-read for anyone who is interested in theater, mythology, or the human condition.



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