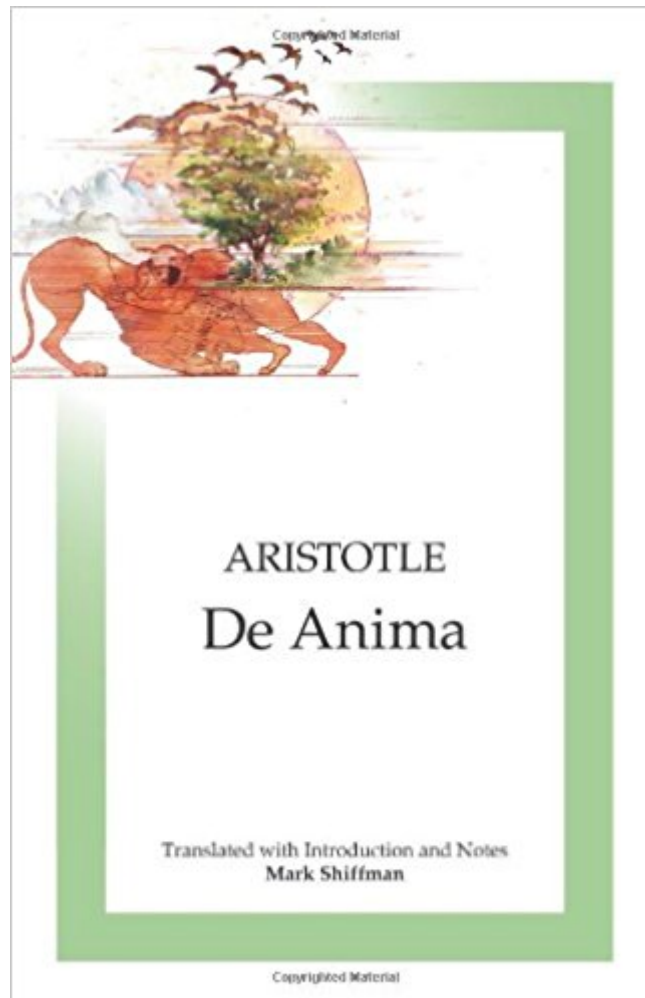




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# **De Anima: On The Soul (Focus Philosophical Library)**



## Synopsis

A complete translation of Aristotle's classic work *De Anima* supplemented with well-chosen notes and a comprehensive introduction. Also commonly translated as *On the Soul*, this work is a seminal work from the roots of Classical thinking on the nature of life and the life force. Focus Philosophical Library translations are close to and are non-interpretative of the original text, with the notes and a glossary intending to provide the reader with some sense of the terms and the concepts as they were understood by Aristotle's immediate audience.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Shiffman's fidelity both to Aristotle's text and to opening the complex thought contained therein to the contemporary reader is evident throughout this translation. It neither attempts to resolve difficulty nor drown the reader in obscurity; instead, it invites the reader to puzzle through this magnificent and difficult text herself. The wonderful introduction supplies any number of tools to do so and is a model of the rigorous and restrained articulation of essential themes and contemporary resonances. The glossary contains an indispensable and illuminating discussion of terms. Readable and thought-provoking, this translation is particularly well-suited for the classroom. Students at all levels will benefit from its lucidity and provocation to thought" — Sara Brill, Fairfield University

The Focus Philosophical Library publishes clear, faithful editions by renowned scholars and teachers enabling access for modern students to essential ideas and wisdom of the

world's greatest thinkers." Shiffman's fidelity both to Aristotle's text and to opening the complex thought contained therein to the contemporary reader is evident throughout this translation. It neither attempts to resolve difficulty nor drown the reader in obscurity; instead, it invites the reader to puzzle through this magnificent and difficult text herself. The wonderful introduction supplies any number of tools to do so and is a model of the rigorous and restrained articulation of essential themes and contemporary resonances. The glossary contains an indispensable and illuminating discussion of terms. Readable and thought-provoking, this translation is particularly well-suited for the classroom. Students at all levels will benefit from its lucidity and provocation to thought."

—Sara Brill, Fairfield University

Mark Shiffman, Assistant Professor of Humanities at Villanova University, is a graduate of St. John's College and received his PhD from the University of Chicago. His work in ancient thought has focused on Plato, Aristotle, Virgil, Plutarch and Augustine.

There is no such thing as a perfect translation, and it often takes a combination of sources to get as close to the original as is possible. After working extensively with 5 translations of *De Anima* (alongside the Greek text), I found that a combination of this and the Sacks were of most help in coming to grips with this difficult work. In both cases, the translators are interested more in Aristotle for his own sake, as opposed to other approaches which see his work less as philosophical treasure than as merely a precursor, of historical interest and importance largely because of how later philosophers dealt with Aristotelianism.

Needed this book for class, but I'm excited to read it!

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