

Apuleius

Lucius Apuleius Madaurensis

Born: 125AD

Died: 180AD

Married: Aemilia Pudentilla



Lucius Apuleius Madaurensis was born in Madaurus that was a roman territory in Numidia (modern Algeria). He was a writer and a scholar, with his most noticeable work being the Golden Ass. He studied Platonism in Athens, followed by travel to Italy, Asia Minor, and Egypt. He was in a cult of Isis. He was tried as magician and through this ordeal he wrote the apology of Apuleius. In this story he showed a comparison to Philosophers and Magicians. As their methods of gathering knowledge appear similar and they can be confused to the untrained.

Terms

- Platonism → is the study of the teachings of Plato, focusing on what we can perceive.
- Golden Ass → this is the story of a magician who turns himself into an ass (donkey) and is saved at the end by the intervention of Isis.
- Cult of Isis → this cult revolved around the Egyptian goddess Isis. In this cult only really mentioned in the Golden Ass brings up the thought that the followers would be brought back new and clean after death.

Website: [Encyclopedia Britannica Online](#)

This website is a general history on Apuleius. The site is scholarly and up kept by the Encyclopedia Britannica. It is made for overall research and knowledge on many topics.

Article: [The Isis Episode in Apuleius](#)

This article talks about how there is controversy with the discussion of Isis. If the story is one big metaphor for sin and being redeemed, or it is a mix of religious text and black magic text.

Questions

1. What reason do you think the Golden Ass survived so well?
2. Do you think magician and a philosopher are similar?
3. How you think the different beliefs of Stoicism and Platonism could exist together?

Bibliography

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