

# Contents

General Introduction	1
I. ARCHAIC GREECE: MYTH AND TRUTH	
Introduction	25
1. Homer and the Heroic Ideal	27
Heroic Essentialism and Agonistic Culture in the <i>Iliad</i>	27
The Return of Odysseus	40
Converting Myth into Power	48
2. Hesiod and the Language of Truth	63
The <i>Theogony</i> on the Origins of Poetry	63
A Farewell to Kings	73
The Art of Truth-Making	84
Conclusion	92
II. CLASSICAL ATHENS: IDEOLOGY AND DIALOGUE	
Introduction	95
3. The Ideal State of Athens	97
The Collective Hero of Attic Tragedy	97
Imperial Athens as a Tragic City	105
Living on the Isles of the Blest	113
4. Plato's Ideal State of Philosophy	121
Socrates and Athens	121
Socrates Leaving the City	134
Plato's Dialogic Writing	142
Conclusion	164
III. PTOLEMAIC ALEXANDRIA: MEMORY AND MAKE-BELIEVE	
Introduction	169
5. Memory and Desire in Callimachus	173
The City of the Muses	173

x CONTENTS

In and Out of Alexandria	181
Desire and Writing	193
6. Theocritus' Poetic Landscapes	201
The Bucolic Therapy of Desire	201
Mimesis and Ideology	220
Epilogue	237
<i>References</i>	243
<i>Index Locorum</i>	273
<i>General Index</i>	283