

# Contents

## Part I: *Setting the Scene*

Introduction . . . . .	3
Imagining Egypt . . . . .	3
Methodology and Outline . . . . .	11
Theoretical Influences . . . . .	24
Chapter 1: Egypt and the Nile in Julio–Claudian Rome . . . . .	29

## Part II: *Lucan*

Chapter 2: Pompey's Nile . . . . .	45
Chapter 3: Beyond Pompey's Nile . . . . .	59
Chapter 4: The Nile Digression . . . . .	80
Acoreus, Author of the Nile . . . . .	83
Physics: The Nile between Earth and Sky . . . . .	86
Ethics: Lucan and Seneca on the Nile . . . . .	96
Poetics: The Bard's Song and the River of Poetry . . . . .	103
The Bard's Song . . . . .	105
The River of Poetry . . . . .	111
Conclusions . . . . .	116

## Part III: *Flavian Rome*

Chapter 5: Egypt and the Nile in Flavian Rome . . . . .	121
Chapter 6: Valerius Flaccus' <i>Argonautica</i> . . . . .	133
The Nile in Cyzicus . . . . .	138
The Nile in the Bosphorus . . . . .	142
The Nile in Aea . . . . .	147
The Nile on the Danube . . . . .	156
Chapter 7: Statius' <i>Thebaid</i> . . . . .	164
The Nile on Perseus' Hill . . . . .	167
The Nile on the Langia . . . . .	170
The Nile in Athens . . . . .	178

Chapter 8: Statius' <i>Propempticon</i> ( <i>Silu.</i> 3.2) . . . . .	184
Producing Egypt, Staging Isis . . . . .	186
Remapping the Land: From Egypt to Rome and Back Again	189
Relating to Religion: Anubis, Phoenix, and Apis . . . . .	198
Revisiting History: Alexander and Cleopatra . . . . .	206
Conclusions . . . . .	216

#### Part IV: The Antonine and Severan Periods

Chapter 9: The Nile and Egypt in the Antonine and: Severan Periods . . . . .	223
The Emperor's Nile: The Younger Pliny and Fronto . . . . .	234
Chapter 10: Plutarch's <i>On Isis and Osiris</i> . . . . .	252
Chapter 11: Philostratus' <i>Life of Apollonius of Tyana</i> . . . . .	258
Sage and Emperor on the Nile . . . . .	262
Reclaiming the Nile . . . . .	273
Imagining the Nile . . . . .	283
Conclusions . . . . .	307
Afterword . . . . .	309
Texts and Translations Used . . . . .	313
Bibliography . . . . .	315
General Index . . . . .	351
Index of Ancient Texts . . . . .	361