

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page</i> xiii
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xv
<i>Figures</i>	xvii
<i>Tables</i>	xviii
Introduction	I
PART I BACKGROUND	5
1 Nero, 'Bad' or 'Good'?	7
1.1 Introduction	7
1.2 Biography	7
1.3 Demonisation	7
1.4 Rationalisation	9
1.5 Reassessment	10
1.6 Caveats	12
1.7 Initial Success	13
1.8 Senatorial Tradition	18
1.9 Nero and the Senate (i)	21
1.10 Achievements	30
2 Agrippina and Her Legacy	32
2.1 Introduction	32
2.2 Life and Career to the Accession of Nero	32
2.3 Long-Term Planning	35
2.4 'Queen Mother'	42
2.5 The Acte Affair	51
2.6 Legacy	55
3 The Establishment Team	56
3.1 Introduction	56
3.2 The Team	59
3.2.1 The Court	59

3.2.2	Intimates	60
3.2.3	Military Prefects	60
3.2.4	<i>Liberti</i>	62
3.2.5	The Outer Circle	65
3.3	<i>Consilium</i>	67
3.3.1	Structure and Operation	67
3.3.2	Legal Business	70
3.3.3	Inclusivity	78
4	Dissimulation?	81
4.1	Delegation	81
4.2	Dissimulation and Dissidence?	82
4.3	Paradox and Confusion?	83
4.4	Doublespeak?	86
4.5	A Carnival of Fear?	87
4.6	The Problem of the Sources	88
4.7	The Problem of Prejudice: the Strength of the Principate	89
4.8	Nero and the Senate (ii)	93
4.9	Exclusion	97
4.10	The Power of Gossip	99
4.11	Dissimulation?	100
5	Frankness and Enquiry	101
5.1	Nero	101
5.2	Neronian Literature	101
5.2.1	Petronius, Seneca	101
5.2.2	Critics of Nero	105
5.2.3	Lucan and Cornutus	107
5.3	Saying the Unsayable	116
5.4	Wider Neronian Culture	119
5.4.1	Architecture and Art	119
5.4.2	Science	121
5.4.3	Geography	124
5.4.4	Nero?	127
5.5	Protected Nero	129
6	Warfare and the Generals	131
6.1	Introduction	131
6.2	Armenia (i)	131
6.2.1	Background	131
6.2.2	Corbulo (i)	134
6.3	The New Order and Britain	136
6.4	The Black Sea	139
6.5	Armenia (ii)	140

6.6	The Generals	142
6.6.1	Corbulo (ii)	142
6.6.2	Consuls and Generals	144
6.7	The Caucasus and Judaea	148
6.7.1	The Caucasus	148
6.7.2	Judaea	151
6.8	Conclusion	152
7	Politics	153
7.1	Power-Groups	153
7.2	Seneca's <i>De clementia</i> : Stoicism and Politics	156
7.3	Nero's Team and Its Aims	162
7.4	Nero's Break-Outs	164
	PART II ASSESSMENT	169
8	Killer? I: 54–62	171
8.1	Introduction	171
8.2	Claudius	171
8.3	M. Junius Silanus	172
8.4	Britannicus	174
8.5	Agrippina	176
8.5.1	Recovery (55–58)	176
8.5.2	Destruction (58–59)	179
8.6	The Year 62	187
8.6.1	Burrus?	187
8.6.2	Succession	189
8.6.3	Rubellius Plautus, Faustus Cornelius Sulla	191
8.6.4	Octavia	193
8.6.5	Doryphorus, Pallas	193
8.7	Conclusion	194
9	Killer? II: 62–68	197
9.1	Introduction	197
9.2	D. Junius Silanus	197
9.3	The Pisonian Conspiracy	197
9.3.1	Introduction	197
9.3.2	Membership	198
9.3.3	Course	200
9.3.4	Motives	203
9.3.5	Assessment	209
9.3.6	Punishment	210
9.3.7	Conclusion	218

9.4	Poppaea	219
9.5	Antonia	219
9.6	The Last Killings	220
9.6.1	Introduction	220
9.6.2	The Vinician Conspirators	222
9.6.3	Corbulo (iii)	224
9.6.4	The Scribonii	227
9.6.5	The Victims of Helius	228
9.6.6	Deaths in Greece	231
9.7	Conclusion	232
10	Arsonist, Persecutor and Ruthless Property Developer?	233
10.1	Arson: The Case For	233
10.2	Arson: The Case Against	234
10.3	Why Nero?	236
10.4	Christians as Scapegoats	244
10.5	The Golden House	248
11	Divinity, Madness, Acting, Ideology, Burn-Out	264
11.1	Divinity	264
11.1.1	Nero-Apollo?	264
11.1.2	Golden Age?	267
11.1.3	Hellenistic Kingship?	270
11.1.4	Nero the Mortal	272
11.1.5	The Colossus	274
11.2	Madness?	276
11.2.1	Psychoanalysing Nero?	276
11.2.2	Degrees of Irrationality	277
11.3	Acting	286
11.4	Ideology	293
11.5	Burn-Out?	294
12	Depravity?	295
12.1	Introduction	295
12.2	Indiscipline	296
12.3	Lust	310
12.4	Extravagance and Avarice	314
12.5	Cruelty	317
13	Finance	326
13.1	Introduction	326
13.2	Problems	327
13.2.1	Potential Stress	327
13.2.2	Signs of Stress?	337

13.3	Solutions	342
13.3.1	Introduction	342
13.3.2	Income	348
13.3.3	Management	350
13.3.4	Coin Reform	354
13.4	The Legacy of Helius	364
PART III END		369
14	Entr'acte: Greece	371
14.1	Introduction	371
14.2	Greece	372
14.3	Philhellenism	373
14.4	Ideology	374
14.5	Inducements	378
14.6	Chronology	379
14.7	Helius	380
14.8	'Triumph'	382
15	Fall	387
15.1	Introduction	387
15.2	The Lull Before the Storm	387
15.3	Vindex	389
15.4	Galba	394
15.5	Macer	398
15.6	Verginius Rufus	401
15.7	Desertion	405
15.8	Death	410
16	Conclusion	416
<i>References</i>		422
<i>Index</i>		434