

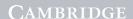
#### THE PLATONIC ALCIBIADES I

Although it was influential for several hundred years after it first appeared, doubts about the authenticity of the Platonic *Alcibiades I* have unnecessarily impeded its interpretation ever since. It positions itself firmly within the Platonic and Socratic traditions, and should therefore be approached in the same way as most other Platonic dialogues. It paints a vivid portrait of a Socrates in his late thirties tackling the unrealistic ambitions of the youthful Alcibiades, urging him to come to know himself and to care for himself. François Renaud and Harold Tarrant re-examine the drama and philosophy of *Alcibiades I* with an eye on those interpreters who cherished it most. Modern scholars regularly play down one or more of the religious, erotic, philosophic, or dramatic aspects of the dialogue, so ancient Platonist interpreters are given special consideration. This rich study will interest a wide range of readers in ancient philosophy.

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# THE PLATONIC ALCIBIADES I

The Dialogue and its Ancient Reception

FRANÇOIS RENAUD and HAROLD TARRANT





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βέλτιον δ' ἴσως συνεργούς ἔχων . . .

Aristotle, EN 10.7 1177a34



## Selected abbreviations

Citations of the Platonic commentaries of Damascius, Proclus and Olympiodorus are abbreviated as follows (for individual editions see the Bibliography):

in Alc. Commentary on the Alcibiades Commentary on the Cratylus in Crat. in Gorg. Commentary on the Gorgias Commentary on the Parmenides in Parm. in Phaed. Commentary on the Phaedo in Phdr. Commentary on the Phaedrus in Remp. Commentary on the Republic in Tim. Commentary on the Timaeus

#### Dictionary and collections

LSJ Liddell & Scott, A Greek-English Lexicon

SVF Stoicorum Veterum Fragmenta SSR Socratis et Socraticorum Reliquiae

#### Anonymous

anon. Proleg. anonymous Prolegomena to Platonic Philosophy

anon. Tht. anonymous in Theaetetum

#### Aristotle

de An. De Anima EE Eudemian Ethics EN Nicomachean Ethics

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x Selected abbreviations

Met. Metaphysics
Poet. Poetics
Pol. Politics
Rhet. Rhetoric

Pseudo-Aristotle

MM Magna Moralia

Cicero

Acad. Academica
De rep. De re publica

Fin. De finibus bonorum et malorum

Leg. De legibus

Nat. De natura deorum
Tusc. Tusculanae disputationes

Diogenes Laertius

D.L. Lives of Eminent Philosophers

**Epictetus** 

Diss. Discourses

**Iamblichus** 

Protr. Protrepticus

De Mysteriis De Mysteriis Aegyptiorum

Olympiodorus

in Cat. Commentary on the Categories

Plato

Alc. I Alcibiades I Alc. II Alcibiades II Apol. Apology



#### Selected abbreviations

хi

Charm. Charmides Crat. Cratylus Crit. Crito

Еp. Epistles/Letters Euthphr. Euthyphro Euthydemus Euthyd. Gorgias Gorg. Laches La. Phd. Phaedo PhdrPhaedrus Phil. Philebus Prot. Protagoras Prm.Parmenides Rep. Republic Soph. Sophist Symp. Symposium Tht. Theaetetus Theag. Theages Tim. Timaeus

#### **Plotinus**

Enn. Enneades

#### Plutarch

Alc. The Life of Alcibiades

De gen. Soc. De Genio Socratis (= On the Daimonion of Socrates)

### Porphyry

VPlot Vita Plotini (= The Life of Plotinus) (in Enn. ed. Henry-Schwyzer)

#### Proclus

de Prov. De Providentia

in Eucl. A Commentary on the First Book of Euclid's Elements

Theol. The Elements of Theology



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Seneca

Ep. Epistulae ad Lucilium

Stobaeus

Anth. Anthologia

Xenophon

Mem. Memorabilia Apol. Apology of Socrates