Apollonius Rhodius’ epic poem, the *Argonautica*, is one of the most important and influential literary productions of the Hellenistic period. This book shows how the retelling of a heroic adventure set in the generation before the Trojan War engages the political, religious, and ethical dynamics of its day by alluding to the real-world context of the early Ptolemaic dynasty as well as to poetic and other models. Through a hegemonic typology that ranges from the just and theocratic to the duplicitous and lawless, Apollonius characterizes the political heirs of Alexander the Great as pious, civilized rulers. This interpretation goes beyond previous studies by examining the political resonance of religious activity in the poem, and by relating these formulations (especially where they concern Apollonius’ departures from his literary predecessors) to the ideological construction of Hellenic identity in third-century Egypt.

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THE POLITICS OF
APOLLONIUS RHODIUS’
ARGONAUTICA

ANATOLE MORI
## Contents

*List of tables*  
page vi

*Acknowledgments*  
vi

*List of abbreviations*  
vii

1. **Introduction**  
1

2. **The politics of Alexandrian poetry**  
19

3. **Strife and restraint among the Argonauts**  
52

4. **Sexual politics in Lemnos, Colchis, and Drepane**  
91

5. **Piety, mediation, and the favor of the gods**  
140

6. **The bones of Apsyrtus**  
187

7. **Quid denique restat: Apollonius and Virgil**  
224

*Bibliography*  
236

*Index*  
256
## Tables

4.1 The early Ptolemies.  \hspace{1cm} \textit{page 97}
5.1 Sacrifices in the \textit{Argonautica}. \hspace{1cm} 157
5.2 Implied sacrifices in the \textit{Argonautica}. \hspace{1cm} 160
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Abbreviations

Spelling and abbreviation generally adhere to the onomastic conventions of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*. Modern periodicals and multivolume reference works are abbreviated as in *L'Année Philologique*. Apollonius is cited from Vian 2002; Virgil from Mynors 1969. All translations are my own except where indicated otherwise.


**ABV** J. D. Beazley. *Attic Black-Figure Vase-Painters*. Oxford, 1956.


**CG** *Catalogue générale des antiquités égyptiennes du Musée du Caire* (with monument number).


List of abbreviations


P. Lille  Papyri grecs. Institute papyrologique de l’Université de Lille, 1907–12.

P. Mil.  Papiri dell’Università degli Studi di Milano. Milan, 1937–.

Vogl.  The Oxyrhynchus Papyri. London, 1898–.


SEG  Supplementum epigraphicum Graecum. Amsterdam, 1923–.

