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Edited by Katharine R. O'Reilly, Caterina Pellò  
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## ANCIENT WOMEN PHILOSOPHERS

Despite the common misconception that ancient philosophy was the domain of male thinkers, sources confirm that women engaged in philosophical activity in antiquity. Bringing together a collection of essays on ancient women thinkers, with special focus on their ideas and contributions to the history of philosophy, this volume is about the earliest women philosophers, their breakthroughs, and the methods we can use to excavate them. The essays survey the methodological strategies to approach the surviving evidence, retrieve the largely unresearched thought and the original ideas of ancient women philosophers, and carve out a space for them in the canon. The broad focus includes women thinkers in ancient Indian, Chinese, and Arabic philosophy as well as in the Greek and Roman philosophical traditions. The volume will be valuable for a wide range of researchers, teachers, and students of ancient philosophy.

KATHARINE R. O'REILLY is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Toronto Metropolitan University. Her research areas include moral psychology in the Ancient Greek and Roman traditions and ancient women philosophers, particularly in the Hellenistic schools.

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# ANCIENT WOMEN PHILOSOPHERS

*Recovered Ideas and New Perspectives*

EDITED BY

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*For our sons, Filippo and Jack.*

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## Abbreviations

### **Aristotle (Ar.)**

<i>Apo.</i>	<i>Posterior Analytics</i>
<i>Apr.</i>	<i>Prior Analytics</i>
<i>Cael.</i>	<i>On the Heavens</i>
<i>EE</i>	<i>Eudemian Ethics</i>
<i>EN</i>	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i>
<i>GA</i>	<i>Generation of Animals</i>
<i>HA</i>	<i>History of Animals</i>
<i>MA</i>	<i>On the Motion of Animals</i>
<i>Met</i>	<i>Metaphysics</i>
<i>Mete.</i>	<i>Meteorology</i>
<i>PA</i>	<i>Parts of Animals</i>
<i>Phys.</i>	<i>Physics</i>
<i>Protr.</i>	<i>Protrepticus</i>
<i>Resp.</i>	<i>On Respiration</i>
<i>Sens.</i>	<i>On Sense and Sensibles</i>
<i>Top.</i>	<i>Topics</i>

### **Damascius**

<i>In Parm.</i>	<i>On Plato's Parmenides</i>
<i>In Phd.</i>	<i>On Plato's Phaedrus</i>
<i>Isid.</i>	<i>Life of Isidorus</i>
<i>Procl.</i>	<i>Life of Proclus</i>

### **Epicurus**

<i>Ad Men.</i>	<i>Letter to Menoeceus</i>
<i>Diss.</i>	<i>Diatribes</i>
<i>VS</i>	<i>Vatican Sayings</i>

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***Gregory of Nyssa***

<i>De An. et Res.</i>	<i>On Soul and Resurrection</i>
<i>Ep. 19</i>	<i>Letter 19</i>
<i>VSM</i>	<i>Life of Saint Macrina</i>

***Hippocrates (Hp.)***

<i>Carn.</i>	<i>On Fleshes</i>
<i>Decent.</i>	<i>On Good Manners</i>
<i>Dieb. Judic.</i>	<i>On Critical Days</i>
<i>Ep.</i>	<i>Epidemics</i>
<i>Foet. Exsect.</i>	<i>On the Excision of the Foetus</i>
<i>Genit.</i>	<i>On Generation</i>
<i>Loc. Hom.</i>	<i>On the Places in Man</i>
<i>Mul.</i>	<i>On the Diseases of Women</i>
<i>Nat. Mul.</i>	<i>On the Nature of Women</i>
<i>Nat. Puer.</i>	<i>On the Nature of the Child</i>
<i>Oct.</i>	<i>On the Eight-Month Child</i>
<i>Praec.</i>	<i>On Preconceptions</i>
<i>Steril.</i>	<i>On Sterile Women</i>
<i>Superf.</i>	<i>On Superfetation</i>
<i>VM</i>	<i>On Ancient Medicine</i>

***Iamblichus (Iamb.)***

<i>DCMS</i>	<i>On the Common Mathematical Science</i>
<i>De Myst.</i>	<i>On the Mysteries</i>
<i>Protr.</i>	<i>Exhortation to Philosophy</i>
<i>Theolog. Arithm.</i>	<i>Theological Principles of Arithmetic</i>
<i>VP</i>	<i>Life of Pythagoras</i>

***Plato (Pl.)***

<i>Grg.</i>	<i>Gorgias</i>
<i>Leges</i>	<i>Laws</i>
<i>Men.</i>	<i>Meno</i>
<i>Parm.</i>	<i>Parmenides</i>
<i>Phd.</i>	<i>Phaedo</i>
<i>Phdr.</i>	<i>Phaedrus</i>
<i>Phil.</i>	<i>Philebus</i>

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### *List of Abbreviations*

<i>Pol.</i>	<i>Statesman</i>
<i>Prt.</i>	<i>Protagoras</i>
<i>Rep.</i>	<i>Republic</i>
<i>Symp.</i>	<i>Symposium</i>
<i>Th.</i>	<i>Theaetetus</i>
<i>Tim.</i>	<i>Timaeus</i>

### ***Plutarch (Plu.)***

<i>Mor.</i>	<i>Moralia</i>
<i>Non Posse</i>	<i>That Epicurus Actually Makes a Pleasant Life Impossible</i>

### ***Porphyry (Porph.)***

<i>Marc.</i>	<i>Letter to Marcella</i>
<i>VP</i>	<i>Life of Pythagoras</i>

### ***Proclus (Procl.)***

<i>In Alc.</i>	<i>On Plato's Alcibiades</i>
<i>In Cra.</i>	<i>On Plato's Cratylus</i>
<i>In Phil.</i>	<i>On Plato's Philebus</i>
<i>In Rep.</i>	<i>On Plato's Republic</i>
<i>In Tim.</i>	<i>On Plato's Timaeus</i>
<i>Inst.</i>	<i>Elements of Theology</i>
<i>Theol. Plat.</i>	<i>Platonic Theology</i>

### ***Ps-Archytas (Ps-Arch.)***

<i>De Vir. Bon.</i>	<i>On the Good and Happy Man</i>
<i>Intell.</i>	<i>On the Intellect and Sense Perception</i>
<i>Univ. Log.</i>	<i>On the Universal Logos</i>
<i>Wisdom</i>	<i>On Wisdom</i>

### ***Seneca***

<i>Aga.</i>	<i>Agamemnon</i>
<i>Ben.</i>	<i>On Benefits</i>
<i>Const.</i>	<i>On the Firmness of the Wise Person</i>
<i>Ep.</i>	<i>Moral Epistles</i>
<i>Helv.</i>	<i>On Consolation to Helvia</i>
<i>HF</i>	<i>The Mad Hercules</i>

## List of Abbreviations

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Ira	<i>On Anger</i>
Marc.	<i>On Consolation to Marcia</i>
Tro.	<i>The Trojan Women</i>

### Synesius

Ad Pae.	<i>On an Astrolabe</i>
Ep.	<i>Epistles</i>

### Other authors

Alcin.	<i>Didask.</i>	Alcinous, <i>The Handbook of Plato</i>
Cic.	<i>Off.</i>	Cicero, <i>On Obligations</i>
Clem.	<i>Strom.</i>	Clement of Alexandria, <i>Stromata</i>
Cod. Vat. Gr.		The Codex Vaticanus
D.L.		Diogenes Laertius, <i>Lives of Eminent Philosophers</i>
Ecph.	<i>De Regn.</i>	Ecphantus, <i>On Kingship</i>
Eur.	<i>Her.</i>	Euripides, <i>Heracles</i>
Euryph.	<i>Life</i>	Euryphamus, <i>Concerning Human Life</i>
Eus.	<i>PE</i>	Eusebius, <i>Preparation for the Gospel</i>
Gnom.	Vat.	Gnomologium Vaticanum e Codice Vaticano
		Graeco 743
Hippol.	<i>Ref.</i>	Hippolytus, <i>Refutation of All Heresies</i>
Jer.	<i>Adv. Iovin</i>	Jerome, <i>Against Iovianus</i>
Liv.	<i>AUC</i>	Livy, <i>Ab Urbe Condita</i>
Olymp.	<i>In Alcib.</i>	Olympiodorus, <i>On Plato's First Alcibiades</i>
Origen	<i>Cels.</i>	Against Celsus
Perict.	<i>Harm. Wom.</i>	Perictione, <i>On the Harmonious Woman</i>
Phint.	<i>Moderation</i>	Phintys, <i>On the Moderation of Women</i>
Phot.	<i>Bibl.</i>	Photius, <i>Bibliotheca</i>
Plin.	<i>Ep.</i>	Pliny, <i>Epistles</i>
Plotinus,	<i>ENN.</i>	Ennead
S.E.	<i>PH</i>	Sextus Empiricus, <i>Outlines of Pyrrhonism</i>
SSR		<i>Socratis et Socraticorum Reliquiae</i>
Stob.	<i>Flor.</i>	Stobaeus, <i>Florilegium</i>
Strab.	<i>Geog.</i>	Strabo, <i>Geography</i>
SVF		<i>Stoicorum Veterum Fragmenta</i>
Tac.	<i>Ann.</i>	Tacitus, <i>Annals</i>
Theag.	<i>Virt.</i>	Theages, <i>On the Virtues</i>
Xen.	<i>Mem.</i>	Xenophon, <i>Memorabilia</i>

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