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SENECA
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EDITED BY

MICHAEL COFFEY

*Emeritus Reader in Greek and Latin,
University College London*

AND

ROLAND MAYER

*Professor of Classics,
King's College London*



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PREFACE

This edition of Seneca's *Phaedra* contains the first full-scale commentary in English on this most influential play, the only treatment of the Hippolytus myth in Roman drama. The introduction aims to offer a systematic study of the Greek and Roman background to the play, its literary and philosophical elements, aspects of style such as imagery, the transmission of the text and a substantial treatment of the influence of the Phaedra story in later European literature and music. The text is founded on Otto Zwierlein's Oxford Classical Text, but a measure of editorial independence will be apparent. The first appendix to the commentary is a comprehensive list of verbal reminiscences, gathered together in order to lighten the commentary, which demonstrate the extent to which the language of *Phaedra* was permeated by the poetry of the age of Augustus; the second is a text of Ovid, *Heroides* IV which reprints that of G. P. Goold in the revised Loeb edition of 1977, and is reproduced here by permission of the trustees of the Loeb Classical Library. M. C. has been responsible for the introduction with the exception of the metrical section, which together with the text, commentary and appendices is the work of R. M.

The principal debt of gratitude of both editors is to Professor E. J. Kenney for his warm encouragement of the joint project and for the care with which he has criticized various stages of the work, always keeping in mind the needs of the reader. M. C. is also very grateful to Professor Otto Zwierlein for allowing him early access to both his text of Seneca's tragedies and also its companion volumes. R. M. wishes to express his gratitude to the management of the Fondation Hardt for their courtesy and helpfulness during a stay at which the commentary was begun, a stay which would not have been possible without financial assistance from the British Academy and from the Fonds Nationaux pour la Recherche Scientifique. Both M. C. and R. M. are also grateful to Miss Betty Dove for typing what was in many places a difficult manuscript.

ABBREVIATIONS

Barrett	W. S. Barrett, Euripides, <i>Hippolytos</i> (Oxford 1964, corr. ed. 1966)
Bonner CHCL	S. F. Bonner, <i>Roman declamation</i> (Liverpool 1949) <i>Cambridge history of classical literature II: Latin literature</i> , edd. E. J. Kenney and W. V. Clausen (Cambridge 1982)
Clemen	W. Clemen, <i>English tragedy before Shakespeare</i> (London 1961)
Coffey	M. Coffey, <i>Roman satire</i> (London 1976)
D–S	C. Daremberg and E. Saglio, <i>Dictionnaire des antiquités grecques et romaines d'après les textes et les monuments</i> , 9 vols. (Paris 1877–1919)
G–L	B. L. Gildersleeve and G. Lodge, <i>Latin grammar</i> , 3rd edn (London 1895)
Herter	H. Herter, 'Theseus', in <i>RE Supplementband XIII</i> (1973) 1045–1238
H–S	J. B. Hofmann and A. Szantyr, <i>Lateinische Syntax und Stilistik</i> (Munich 1965)
Housman	A. E. Housman, <i>Collected classical papers</i> , edd. J. Diggle and F. R. D. Goodyear, 3 vols. (Cambridge 1972)
Hunter	G. K. Hunter, <i>Dramatic identities and cultural tradition</i> (Liverpool 1978)
K–S	R. Kühner and C. Stegmann, <i>Ausführliche Grammatik der lateinischen Sprache</i> , 4th edn rev. A. Thierfelder, 2 vols. (Munich 1962)
Lesky	A. Lesky, <i>Greek tragic poetry</i> , English trans. (New Haven and London 1983)
N–H	R. G. M. Nisbet and M. Hubbard, <i>A commentary on Horace: Odes Book I</i> (Oxford 1970) <i>A commentary on Horace: Odes Book II</i> (Oxford 1978)
Otto	A. Otto, <i>Die Sprichwörter und sprichwörtlichen Redensarten der Römer</i> (Leipzig 1890, repr. Hildesheim 1962)

<i> OCD</i>	<i>Oxford Classical Dictionary</i> 2nd edn (Oxford 1970)
<i> OLD</i>	<i>Oxford Latin Dictionary</i> (Oxford 1968–82)
Pfeiffer	R. Pfeiffer, <i>History of classical scholarship</i> (Oxford 1968)
	<i>History of classical scholarship 1300–1850</i> (Oxford 1976)
<i> RE</i>	<i>Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft</i> , edd. Pauly–Wissowa–Kroll (Stuttgart 1893–1980)
Reynolds	L. D. Reynolds and N. G. Wilson, <i>Scribes and scholars</i> , 2nd edn (Oxford 1974)
Roby	H. J. Roby, <i>A grammar of the Latin language, Part II</i> (London 1889)
Roscher	W. H. Roscher, <i>Ausführliches Lexicon der griechischen und römischen Mythologie</i> (Leipzig 1884–1937)
Shackleton Bailey	D. R. Shackleton Bailey, <i>Propertiana</i> (Cambridge 1956)
Syme	R. Syme, <i>Tacitus</i> (Oxford 1958)
<i> TLL</i>	<i>Thesaurus Linguae Latinae</i> (Leipzig 1900–)
Wackernagel	J. Wackernagel, <i>Vorlesungen über Syntax</i> , 2 vols. (Basle I 1926, II 1928)
Webster	T. B. L. Webster, <i>The tragedies of Euripides</i> (London 1967)
Williams	G. W. Williams, <i>Change and decline in Roman literature in the early empire</i> (Berkeley–Los Angeles–London 1978)