

VIRGIL'S ASCANIUS

Ascanius is the most prominent child hero in Virgil's *Aeneid*. He accompanies his father from Troy to Italy and is present from the first book of the epic to the last; he is destined to found the city of Alba Longa and the Julian family to which Caesar and Augustus both belonged; he hunts, he fights, he makes speeches, and he even makes a joke. In the first book-length study of Virgil's Ascanius, Anne Rogerson demonstrates the importance of this character not just to the Augustan family tree but to the texture and the meaning of the *Aeneid*. As a figure of prophecy and a symbol both of hopes for the future and of present uncertainties, Ascanius is a fusion of epic and dynastic desires. Compelling close readings of the representation and reception of this understudied character throughout the *Aeneid* expose the unexpectedly childish qualities of Virgil's heroic epic.

ANNE ROGERSON is the Charles Tesoriero Senior Lecturer in Latin at the University of Sydney. She has published numerous articles on the *Aeneid* and its reception, and is also a regular contributor to Richard Glover's Drive programme on ABC radio, as a guest speaker and ancient world expert in the 'Self-Improvement Wednesday' series.

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VIRGIL'S ASCANIUS
Imagining the Future in the *Aeneid*

ANNE ROGERSON
University of Sydney



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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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ABBREVIATIONS

<i>Aen.</i>	<i>Aeneid</i>
<i>Anth. Pal.</i>	<i>Anthologia Palatina</i>
Dion. Hal., <i>Ant. Rom.</i>	Dionysius of Halicarnassus, <i>Antiquitates Romanae</i>
<i>FGrH</i>	Jacoby, F. 1923–. <i>Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i> . Berlin: Weidmann
<i>LIMC</i>	1981–2009. <i>Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae</i> . Zürich: Artemis
<i>OLD</i>	Glare, P. G. W. 2012. <i>Oxford Latin Dictionary</i> , 2nd edn. Oxford University Press
<i>TLL</i>	1900–. <i>Thesaurus Linguae Latinae</i> . Leipzig: Teubner