

Acknowledgements

This book originates in a doctoral thesis written jointly at the University of Padua and Swansea University, which I defended in Padua in March 2011, and which has since been majorly revised. The originally submitted thesis was a commentary on the first book of Xenophon's *Ephesiaca*. After the Viva, I decided to convert its long introduction into a monograph, in order to be able to shed new light on the *Ephesiaca* as a whole.

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