

YARDLEY (J. C.) (trans.) *Livy: Rome's Italian Wars. Books 6–10*. With an Introduction and Notes by Dexter Hoyos. Pp. xlv + 391, maps. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013. Paper, £12.99, US\$14.95. ISBN: 978-0-19-956485-9.

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This is the most recent volume in the Oxford World's Classics Livy series, which now runs the full gamut of the extant *AUC* and *periochae*. As with the other volumes, the translation is complemented by an introduction and notes, here (as in Y.'s previous volume on Books 21–30) by D. Hoyos. In addition to the notes, there are two maps, one of Italy in the fourth century and one of Rome in the same period; a bibliography; and an extensive and useful chronology of events in each of the books. In the back matter, there are two appendices, one detailing textual variances from Walters and Conway's 1919 OCT, and another offering a detailed discussion of the manipular legion, clearly laying out the problems with Livy's account as well as possible solutions. A glossary and an index, both clear and useful, round out the book.

The introduction provides background information on Livy himself, his sources, the composition and structure of the pentad, and his credibility as a historian. As far as the- matics are concerned, the introduction focuses especially on religion, morality, vices and virtues, but not on exemplarity, rhetoric, Rome's expansion in Italy or the political trans- formation that structure Books 6–10. Generally speaking, the introduction leans towards the conservative side, with the now old-fashioned image of Livy as an armchair moralising historian, 'accepting the claims [of his sources] even though his own narrative gives strong enough reason to suspect them' (p. xxvii). As much recent work on Livy has shown, such views do a disservice to an author who is increasingly seen as crafting a complex literary work with a considerable aesthetic dimension, and who can also lay a credible claim to a particular brand of historical soundness; it is perhaps underselling Livy, then, not to include more recent perceptions of him in what will surely become the definitive English translation of this portion of the *AUC*. Nevertheless, the introduction does an excellent job of setting Livy in his period, highlighting the living republic of Livy's youth (pp. vii–viii), giving a thought-provoking summary of some of the problems inherent in the annalistic framework (p. x), and touching on the contested chronology of the 'years of anarchy' and the dictator years (p. xi). One typographical error: Papius Cursor's 'stiff drink' on p. xx ought to be 10.42, not 9.42, as stated correctly on p. xxii.

The translation is good and readable throughout, balancing modern English diction with the substance of Livy's Latin. As a rule, Y. tends to break down and simplify Livy's sen- tence structures, which makes getting through the bulk of the text a simple and pleasant task. It will certainly make Livy less intimidating for undergraduate students, and it makes a change from Betty Radice's 1982 translation for Penguin (although for capturing Livy's rolling period, some may still prefer Radice; indeed, the two side-by-side make an edifying lesson in the art of translation, and Livy is well served by both). This is an excel- lent volume, which furnishes not only a precise and readable translation, but also a set of useful resources for the reader.

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