

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	v
Acknowledgments	ix
Preface.....	xi
Introduction	1
Survey of dream interpretation and research	3
Overview.....	6
Part 1: Ancient Dreams and the Asclepius Dream Cult	11
Chapter 1: Dreams in Antiquity	13
The ancient dream.....	13
Ancient testimonies to Asclepius and the Asclepius cult.....	19
Overview.....	19
Dream incubation.....	21
Historical and archaeological background to the Asclepius cult.....	23
Location of temples	23
Temple designs	26
Setting of temples	30
The <i>abaton</i>	31
Life and death	37
Other temple facilities.....	38
The socio-cultural background of Asclepius temple users.....	40
Incubation and Asclepius appearances	43
Chapter 2: Pharmacology and Alchemy in Antiquity	47
Natural resources in the ancient Mediterranean world	49
Plants	49
Minerals.....	55
Pharmacological cultivation, and the ritual use of <i>materia</i> : an examination of <i>Codex Marcianus</i> and <i>Papyri Graecae</i> <i>Magicae</i>	56
<i>Codex Marcianus</i> and material re-generation.....	57

<i>Papyri Graecae Magicae</i> : reflections on materiality and sacrifice.....	65
The relationship between dreams and body	71
Chapter 3: The Dream of Aelius Aristides.....	77
Background.....	77
The sleeper's dream: epiphany, body, and inner experience ..	81
Epiphany experiences	82
Physical sensations and psyche-soma phenomena.....	87
Inner experiences.....	90
The waking world: bringing the dream to conscious expression	102
Alteration	102
Proclamation of text and healing	104
Aristides and Rome.....	108
Part II: Dreams and Early Christian Cults	111
Chapter 4: Dreams in Early Christian Sources	113
Dreams and ancient Judaism	113
Pre-exilic incubation dream experiences.....	113
Exilic dreams.....	118
Patterns of "experience," and the Word of YHWH.....	124
Philo's dreams.....	125
Dreams and early Christian cults	127
Dreams and early Christian subcultures	127
Dreams in Matthew 1–2.....	129
Temple ritual, media, dream movements and nuance in Matthew 1–2	144
Matthew 1:18–2:23.....	149
Chapter 5: The Passion of Perpetua.....	155
Background.....	155
The first dream vision.....	156
<i>Transitus</i> , sacrifice, and preparation as dream motifs.....	156
The other visions of Perpetua	171
The early Christian concept of after-life.....	176
Chapter 6: Gregory of Nazianzus and St Augustine.....	185
The mother of Gregory of Nazianzus	185
Media and mediation.....	188
Observable signs of restoration	190

The mother of Augustine.....	191
Transformation and “word”	194
Conclusion: Dreams and Healing in Early Christian and	
Asclepius Cults.....	199
The Asclepius cult and temple ritual	199
Dreams, healing and early Christian cults.....	201
Epiphany: body and salvation history	203
Mediating dream figures	205
Early Christian dreams and <i>materia</i>	207
Dream movements, transformation, and temple sacrifice....	210
Observations	211
The sleeper’s dream: Asclepius ritual and early Christian	
discourse	212
Appendix A: PGM Texts in Relation to Dreams and Healing	215
Appendix B: Texts of Aristides’s and the Asclepius Cult	221
Bibliography	225
Primary sources.....	225
Secondary sources	227
Research tools	232
Index.....	235

