

CONTENTS

<i>List of contributors</i>	ix
<i>Preface and acknowledgements</i>	xii
Introduction	1
MARK W. CHAVALAS	
1 An exploration of the world of women in third-millennium Mesopotamia	10
HARRIET CRAWFORD	
2 The feminine in myths and epic	28
ALHENA GADOTTI	
3 Sumerian wisdom literature	59
ALHENA GADOTTI	
4 Akkadian wisdom literature	75
KAREN NEMET-NEJAT	
5 Medicine and healing magic	101
JOANN SCURLOCK	
6 Women and law	144
MARTHA T. ROTH	
7 The <i>Epic of Gilgamesh</i>	175
KAREN NEMET-NEJAT	
8 <i>The Descent of Ishtar to the Netherworld</i> compared to <i>Nergal and Ereshkigal</i>	195
KAREN NEMET-NEJAT	

9a	Akkadian Texts—Women in letters: Old Assyrian Kaniš CÉCILE MICHEL	205
9b	Akkadian Texts—Women in letters: The Neo-Assyrian period SARAH C. MELVILLE	213
10a	Women in Neo-Assyrian texts SARAH C. MELVILLE	228
10b	Women in Neo-Assyrian inscriptions KAREN NEMET-NEJAT	240
11	Women in Hittite ritual BILLIE JEAN COLLINS	246
12	Hurro-Hittite stories and Hittite pregnancy and birth rituals MARY BACHVAROVA	272
	<i>Index</i>	307