To Kyle,

For your love, support, and allowing me to ‘ventilate’.
Acknowledgments

There have been times when my journey towards thesis completion felt like a ‘never-ending story’. That this story has now come to an end after all has been largely due to the kindness and support of countless people I met along the way. I would like to extend my gratitude to each and every one of them and would like to thank a number of people more explicitly.

First and foremost, I would like to thank my supervisor prof. dr. Jan Paul Crielaard for never giving up on me and for repeatedly guiding me back onto the path after I had ventured off and lost my way in the woods. What is more, his extraordinarily meticulous feedback on virtually every aspect of the present thesis – from the theoretical concepts and concrete archaeological interpretations the minutia of copyediting down to punctuation mistakes in the footnotes – not only proved invaluable for improving the manuscript that now lays before you but also for turning me into a better researcher, writer, and archaeologist. Second, I would like to thank prof. dr. Douwe Yntema and prof. dr. Gert-Jan Burgers for always being there for me in their role as successive co-supervisors, as well as members of the thesis committee, prof. dr. Nico Roymans, prof. dr. Sofia Voutsaki, PD dr. Reinhard Jung, dr. Gert Jan van Wijngaarden, and dr. Ann Brysbaert, for their willingness to examine the present thesis.

I also owe many thanks to my Department at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, which changed names and saw valuable colleagues come and go – many of whom became dear friends. I would like to start by expressing my gratitude to dr. Philip Verhagen, for making me feel welcome and for all of the advice and support he has given me ever since that faithful day I walked into 9a-41. Secondly, I would like to thank dr. Mieke Prent for her eternal encouragement, from my time with her as a student until the present day. Thanks are also in order for all of the remaining faculty members, as well as the supporting staff and HBS employees associated with the Department – particularly Bert Brouwenstijn, Jaap Fokkema, Henk Hiddink and Mikko Kriek for making our Department a more lively place. Beyond the Department, I would like to express my gratitude towards Henk Heijerman for coaching me through a particularly rough patch, as well as towards the university’s Graduate School of Humanities and the CLUE+ Research Institute for their support. I am also greatly indebted to the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research for awarding me the generous grant that allowed me to embark on my PhD journey. Moreover, I would like to thank the Netherlands Institute in Athens, the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, the British School in Athens, and the Austrian Institute in Athens, for allowing me to use their services and for welcoming me in the city I came to love so dearly as part of my PhD process.

A journey is not the same without the companionship of fellow travelers. Among my travel companions, I would first like to thank co-director prof. dr. Aleydis Van de Moortel and the entire team of the Mitrou Archaeological Project, especially Lizzi Kersey, Amanda Iacobelli, Caroline Belz, Tina Ross, Stephanie Feuer, Kaitlyn Stiles, Calia McNamee, Salvatore Vitale, Chris Hale, Bartek Lis, Štěpán Rückl, Nick Blackwell, Nick Hermann, and Rocco de Gregory, for making the summers of 2011 – 2013 among the best I ever had both professionally and personally. Next, I would like to give a big shout-out to my friends in Amsterdam, Elisha van den Bos, Jamie Joyce, and Angele Rosenberg, who all know how hard it is to do a PhD and without whom I would never have survived doing mine. I am also very grateful for all of the other friends and fellow PhD researchers/postdocs I met along the way, including Eleftheria Pappa, Laura Crowley, Julie Van Kerckhove, Max van der Schriek, Stefan Kooi, Ruben Brugge, Ayla Krijnen, Mark Groenhuizen, Daphne Lentjes, Giulia Saltini Semerari, Ilona Venderbos, Martijn Wijnhoven, Samantha Ximeri, Martina Revello Lami, Raphaëlle-Anne Kok-Merlino, Matteo Merlino, Jitte Waagen, Jill Hilditch, Marleen Termeer, Eva Mol, Olivia Jones, Martine van Haperen, Kayt Armstrong, Fenneke Syssling, David Kloos, Eva van Hooijdonk, Gudrun Reijnierse, Karin Lurvink, and Tim Groot Kormelink.
Those of you who know me best know that although I love to travel I always return home. Home is where I, first of all, would like to thank Jaap en Kees Tuijp of Cafetaria Kippie for allowing me to come back after every three-month stint I spent in Greece or the US. To my friends at home, Marieke Keizer, Joyce Keizer, Sharon Plat, Jenny Schilder-Molenaar, Kelly Bond, and Caroline Kok I would like to say: “meiden, verschrikkelijk bedankt voor jullie vriendschap!” I also would like to thank Gerie Veerman for dragging me to concerts and for the infamous nights of ‘coffee’ that somehow always end up with two empty bottles of wine. Those that deserve most of my gratitude though are Ma, Pa, and Michael for putting up with me for so long and for giving me all of the support a person could wish for in trying to finish a PhD. Finally, I would like to thank Kyle Jazwa for his untiring ability to lift my spirits and for his unconditional encouragement during most of my long and winding PhD road. Frankly, I don’t think I could have done it without you, so vriendje this one’s for you.

December 13\textsuperscript{th} 2016