

# A Commentary on Cicero, *De Divinatione II*

Andrew R. Dyck ranks among the top Latinists in Ciceronian studies. In this new volume, he offers the first commentary on Cicero's *De Divinatione II* in nearly a century. This commentary aims to equip students and scholars of Latin with the kinds of historical and philosophical background and linguistic and stylistic information needed to understand and appreciate Cicero's text on Roman religion and divination. Dyck situates Cicero's text in the context of Roman religion in antiquity, and he traces the subsequent reception of the text. The introduction reviews recent interpretations of *De Divinatione*. Dyck rejects the view that has recently been widespread in Anglophone studies that *De Divinatione* stages a debate between roughly equal opponents and without the emergence of a clear authorial point of view. Instead he argues that a careful reading shows that Cicero as author is invested in the argument, with the particular aim of countering superstition.

Celia Schultz's earlier volume in this series presented the text and commentary for *De Divinatione I*. With Andrew Dyck's companion volume on the second book of *De Divinatione*, students and teachers are well served with crucial texts from one of Rome's most famous philosophers, as he considers important Roman practices and beliefs.

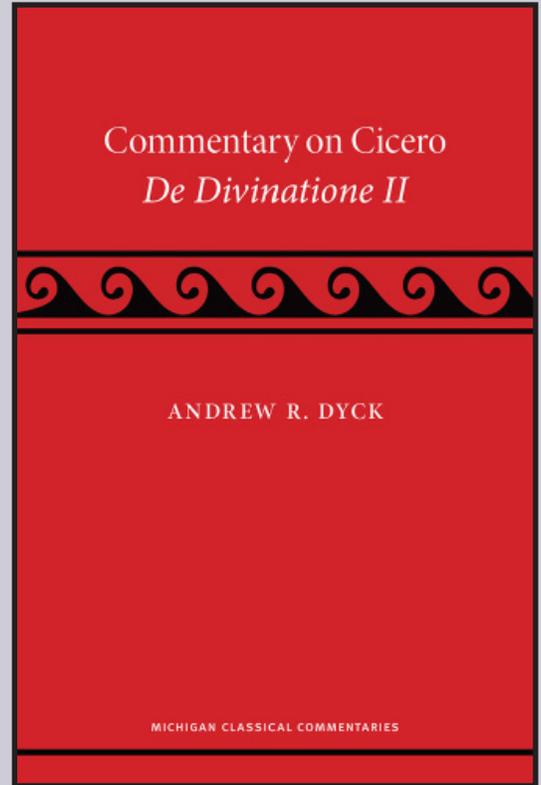
"The commentary is exceptionally strong on taking the reader through the philosophical argument that Cicero is presenting, both through the helpful summaries of argument that appear at key points and through the individual lemmata. Dyck guides the reader on a clear path."

—David Wardle, University of Cape Town

"It would be difficult to find a more learned, reliable, and distinguished author for this project than Andrew R. Dyck. This book will work admirably for lower level graduate students, and will repay the attention of specialists as well."

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**Andrew R. Dyck** is Professor Emeritus of Classics at the University of California, Los Angeles.



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