



Contexts of War: Manipulation of Genre in Virgilian Battle Narrative

Andreola Rossi

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Moving beyond the usual pairing of Homer and Virgil, *Iliad* and *Aeneid*, Rossi refutes the notion that Homer is the only code model for the latter. This in-depth study reveals that Virgilian battle narrative assimilates conventions of other literary genres, namely historiography and, indirectly, tragedy. Rossi demonstrates how Virgilian war narrative allows multiple and diachronic visions of reality, and hence multiple systems of signification, to co-exist in the text. In this way, Virgil's *Aeneid* detaches itself from the Homeric epic and forcefully asserts its own relative modernity.

Andreola Rossi is Assistant Professor, Department of Classics, Harvard University.



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