This volume celebrates the scholarship of Alan F. Segal. During his prolific career, Alan published ground-breaking studies that shifted scholarly conversations about Christianity, rabbinic Judaism, Hellenism and Gnosticism. Like the subjects of his research, Alan crossed many boundaries. He understood that religions do not operate in academically defined silos, but in complex societies populated by complicated human beings. Alan's work engaged with a variety of social-scientific theories that illuminated ancient sources and enabled him to reveal new angles on familiar material.

This interdisciplinary approach enabled Alan to propose often controversial theories about Jewish and Christian origins. A new generation of scholars has been nurtured on this approach and the fields of early Judaism and Christianity emerge radically redefined as a result.

ANDREA LIEBER, Ph.D. (1998), Columbia
University, is Professor of Religion at
Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania
where she holds the Sophia Ava Asbell Chair
of Judaic studies. She is the author of
The Essential Guide to Jewish Prayer and
Practices (Penguin/Alpha Books, 2012) and
co-editor with Lynn LiDonnici of Heavenly
Tablets: Rewriting Tradition in Early
Judaism. Volume in Honor of Dr. Betsy
Halpern-Amaru (Brill, 2007).

KIMBERLY B. STRATTON, Ph.D. (2002), Columbia University, is Associate Professor of Religion in the College of the Humanities at Carleton University, Ottawa. Her book, Naming the Witch: Magic, Ideology, and Stereotype in the Ancient World (Columbia UP, 2007), won the Frank W. Beare award from the Canadian Society of Biblical Studies (2008). She co-edited, with Dayna Kalleres, Daughters of Hecate: Women and Magic in the Ancient World (Oxford UP, 2014) and has published numerous essays on magic, gender, violence, and identity in the ancient world.