

## Acknowledgments

This book received generous support and assistance from many quarters. I owe a debt of gratitude to the staff of the Bodleian Library for the permission to use their resources and for their kind help. I also wish to thank the librarians and staff of the Warsaw University Library, particularly the inter-library loan team, and the Library of the Institute of English Studies. I would like to thank Bernard J. Muir for granting me permission to use an image from the Exeter Codex. Thanks are also due to the Bodleian Library, Oxford University, and the Corpus Christi College Library in Cambridge which were kind enough to allow me reproduce fragments of manuscript facsimile under copyright.

I have benefited over the years from the encouragement and support of many people. First and foremost, I would like to thank Jerzy Rubach for reviewing the book. I should also like to acknowledge my gratitude to Elżbieta Górńska for her unflinching attention and counsel. I thank Beata Łukaszewicz for her steadfast encouragement throughout this project. Last but not least, I am grateful to Maria Szewczyk and the staff of the Warsaw University Press for their efficiency, patience and kindness. My greatest thanks go to my parents and to my family – Antek, Zosia and Witek, to whom I dedicate this book.