Chronology

All dates throughout this book are BC unless stated otherwise.

- 508/7: reforms of Cleisthenes; beginning of Athenian democracy
- 490: first Persian War (Battle of Marathon)
- 481–479: second Persian war; naval battle of Salamis
- 478: creation of the Delian League, instrument of Athenian imperialism
- 462/1: reform of Ephialtes, reducing the powers of the Areopagus and reinforcing the power of the people
- 451: law on citizenship (the requirement to have two Athenian parents to be considered a full citizen); institution of the first political allowance (*misthos*) for the members of the popular courts
- 447–438: construction of the Parthenon
- 443-429: Pericles reelected as stratēgos
- 431–404: Peloponnesian War between Athens and Sparta (and their respective allies)
- 429: the 'plague' in Athens; death of Pericles
- 415: religious scandals in the city (mutilation of the Herms and parody of the Eleusinian Mysteries)
- 415–413: expedition to Sicily with catastrophic consequences for Athens
- 411: first oligarchic revolution (known as the Four Hundred); revolt of the Athenian fleet stationed in Samos: Thrasybulus elected *stratēgos* by the rowers
- 410: end of the first oligarchic revolution and restoration of democracy; beginning of the revision of the city's laws
- 406: Battle of Arginusai; trial and conviction of Athenian generals
- 405 (fall): Athenian defeat at Aigos Potamos
- 404-403: Athenian civil war
 - 404 (January?): trial of Cleophon; second performance of Aristophanes' *Frogs*

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- 404 (April): surrender of Athens; destruction of the Long Walls linking the city to Piraeus
- 404 (September?): establishment of the Thirty; reduction of the civic body to 3,000 citizens
- 404 (December?): capture of Phyle by Thrasybulus and the first resistance fighters
- 403 (Spring?): dissension among the Thirty; trial and execution of Theramenes
- 403 (May–June?): Battle of Mounychia in Piraeus; death of Critias and deposition of the Thirty, replaced by the Ten
- 403 (September or early October): end of the oligarchy and Athenian reconciliation
- 403/2: establishment of the political allowance for the Assembly; distinction between laws and decrees; reinstatement of the law on citizenship; Theozotides' decree in favor of the orphans of the citizens who had died during the *stasis* (or 410?)
- 403–401: multiple trials against former oligarchs (in particular Lysias' lawsuit against Eratosthenes)
- 401: decree granting citizenship to the noncitizen combatants of Phyle 401/0: depletion of the last oligarchic stronghold in Eleusis 399: trial and acquittal of Andocides; trial and conviction of Socrates