Editors' Forward	13
Authors' Preface	15
Introduction: The Exodus Narrative in Synchronic and Diachronic Perspective	17
	17
A. The Biblical Exodus Narrative – A Synchronic Analysis	17 17
(Gen – 2 Kgs)	21
3. The Exodus Story as a Unified Narrative	23
3.1. The Narrative Beginning	23
3.2. The Narrative Conclusion	23
Exodus Narrative	24
4. Structure and Plot of the Biblical Exodus Narrative	26
4.1. Basic Terms: Plot, Type, Scene, Episode, Narrative Phase	26
4.2. Scenes and Episodes	26
4.3. Futher Textual Forms	29
4.4. The Phases of the Exodus Narrative	29
4.5. The Biblical Exodus Narrative as an "Action Novel"	31
5. Themes and Intentions of the Biblical Exodus Narrative	32
dactic Narrative	32
the Cult Legend of the Passover-Matzot festival	33
5.3. The Exodus Narrative as "Tehillah Narrative"	34
B. The Literary History of the Book of Exodus	34
1. Principles and Goals of the Commentary in Diachronic Perspective	34
2. The Reconstructed Compositions	41
2.1. The Older Exodus Narrative	43
2.2. The Exodus-Mountain of God Narrative (EM Narrative)	45
2.3. The Deuteronomistic History (DtrH)	47
2.4. The Priestly Composition (P Composition)	49
2.5. The Torah Composition	51
Synthesis	53
Prologue: Exod 1:1-7: In Egypt the Israelites Become a Great People	55
Notes on the Text and Translation	55
Synchronic Analysis	55
Diachronic Analysis	57
Synthesis	61

First Narrative Phase: Exod 1:8 – 2:22: The Egyptians Oppress the Israelites with Forced Labor; the Childhood and Youth of Moses	63
Introduction to the First Narrative Phase	63
Cannot Crush Their Strength	65
Notes on the Text and Translation	66
Synchronic Analysis	66
Diachronic Analysis	69
Pithom and Rameses	71
The Origin of the Exodus Tradition	73
Israel in Egypt - Israel under Egypt	74
Synthesis	75
Episode 2: Exod 1:15-22: The King of Egypt Vainly Incites Midwives to Mur-	
der Newborn Hebrew Boys; He Commands his People to Do So	75
Notes on the Text and Translation	75 -
Synchronic Analysis	76
Diachronic Analysis	78
Synthesis	79
Adopted by Pharaoh's Daughter	80
Notes on the Text and Translation	80
Synchronic Analysis	81
Diachronic Analysis	85 87
Episode 4: Exod 2:11–15 (Penultimate Sentence): The Young Man Moses	07
Takes the Side of a Hebrew Forced Laborer, Kills an Egyptian Overseer, and	
Has to Flee from Egypt	88
Notes on the Text and Translation	89
Synchronic Analysis	89
Diachronic Analysis	93
Episode 5: Exod 2:15 (final clause)–22: The Adult Moses Meets the Daugh-	, ,
ters of the Priest of Midian and Receives One of Them as His Wife	94
Notes on the Text and Translation	94
Synchronic Analysis	94
Diachronic Analysis	98
Synthesis	98
Second Narrative Phase: Exod 2:23 - 6:1: From the Mountain of God to	
Egypt	101
Introduction to the Synchronic Interpretation	101
ites	104
Notes on the Text and Translation	104
Synchronic Analysis	104
Diachronic Analysis	107
Episode 2: Exod 3:1–6: God Appears to Moses in the Thorn Bush	108
Notes on the Text and Translation	108

Consideration Ameliania	
Synchronic Analysis	108
Diachronic Analysis	112
Mountain of God - Horeb - Sinai - Zion	113
The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob	115
Synthesis	115
Episode 3: Exod 3:7 - 4:17: Speeches and Dialogues: God Sends Moses to	
Egypt	117
Notes on the Text and Translation	118
Synchronic Analysis	120
Diachronic Analysis	129
The List of Foreign Nations	130
Gold and Silver	132
Synthesis	134
Episode 4: Exod 4:18-31: The Journey to Egypt	135
Notes on the Text and Translation	136
Synchronic Analysis	137
Diachronic Analysis	142
Moses' Wife and Sons	142
Synthesis	144
Episode 5: Exod 5:1–6:1: The Liberation Fails	145
Notes on the Text and Translation	146
Synchronic Analysis	148
Diachronic Analysis	153
Synthesis	154
Third Narrative Phase: Exod 6:2-7:13: YHWH Associates the Liberation	
of the Israelites with His Name and Resends Moses and Aaron to	
Pharaoh	155
Introduction	155
Episode 1: Exod 6:2–8: YHWH's Speech: YHWH Associates the Liberation of Is-	
rael with his Name	157
Notes on the Text and Translation	150
	157
Synchronic Analysis	157
Synchronic Analysis	
Diachronic Analysis	158
Diachronic Analysis	158
Diachronic Analysis	158 162
Diachronic Analysis Episode 2: Narrative and Dialogue: Exod 6:9–12: The Israelites Do Not Listen to God's Promise, Yhwh Sends Moses to Pharaoh Notes on the Text and Translation	158 162 164
Diachronic Analysis Episode 2: Narrative and Dialogue: Exod 6:9–12: The Israelites Do Not Listen to God's Promise, Yhwh Sends Moses to Pharaoh Notes on the Text and Translation Synchronic Analysis	158 162 164 164 164
Diachronic Analysis Episode 2: Narrative and Dialogue: Exod 6:9–12: The Israelites Do Not Listen to God's Promise, Yhwh Sends Moses to Pharaoh Notes on the Text and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 3: Genealogy 6:13–30: The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron	158 162 164 164
Diachronic Analysis Episode 2: Narrative and Dialogue: Exod 6:9–12: The Israelites Do Not Listen to God's Promise, Yhwh Sends Moses to Pharaoh Notes on the Text and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 3: Genealogy 6:13–30: The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron Textual Notes and Translation	158 162 164 164 164 165 166
Diachronic Analysis Episode 2: Narrative and Dialogue: Exod 6:9–12: The Israelites Do Not Listen to God's Promise, Yhwh Sends Moses to Pharaoh Notes on the Text and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 3: Genealogy 6:13–30: The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron Textual Notes and Translation Synchronic Analysis	158 162 164 164 164 165
Diachronic Analysis Episode 2: Narrative and Dialogue: Exod 6:9–12: The Israelites Do Not Listen to God's Promise, Yhwh Sends Moses to Pharaoh Notes on the Text and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 3: Genealogy 6:13–30: The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron Textual Notes and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 4: Exod 7:1–7: Speech/Narrative: The Egyptians Are to Experience	158 162 164 164 164 165 166
Diachronic Analysis Episode 2: Narrative and Dialogue: Exod 6:9–12: The Israelites Do Not Listen to God's Promise, Yнwн Sends Moses to Pharaoh Notes on the Text and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 3: Genealogy 6:13–30: The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron Textual Notes and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 4: Exod 7:1–7: Speech/Narrative: The Egyptians Are to Experience Yнwн's Name	158 162 164 164 165 166 167
Diachronic Analysis Episode 2: Narrative and Dialogue: Exod 6:9–12: The Israelites Do Not Listen to God's Promise, Yhwh Sends Moses to Pharaoh Notes on the Text and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 3: Genealogy 6:13–30: The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron Textual Notes and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 4: Exod 7:1–7: Speech/Narrative: The Egyptians Are to Experience Yhwh's Name Notes on the Text and Translation	158 162 164 164 165 166 167
Diachronic Analysis Episode 2: Narrative and Dialogue: Exod 6:9–12: The Israelites Do Not Listen to God's Promise, Yнwн Sends Moses to Pharaoh Notes on the Text and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 3: Genealogy 6:13–30: The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron Textual Notes and Translation Synchronic Analysis Episode 4: Exod 7:1–7: Speech/Narrative: The Egyptians Are to Experience Yнwн's Name	158 162 164 164 165 166 167 170

Episode 5: Narrative: Exod 7:8-13: Moses and Aaron Prove themselves to Pharaoh by Performing a Miracle with the Staff	175 175
Synchronic Analysis	176
Diachronic Analysis	177 178
	170
Fourth Narrative Phase: Exod 7:14 – 11:10: The Plagues Narrative	181
Introduction to the Synchronic Interpretation of the Plagues Narrative Boundaries and Plot of the Plagues Narrative The Structure of the Plagues Narrative The Plagues The Hardening The Dynamic of Liberation Introduction to the Diachronic Interpretation of the Plagues Narrative	181 182 186 189 193 195
First Cycle: Blood - Frogs - Gnats	197
Episode 1: Exod 7:14-24: Blood, Death of Fish	197
Notes on the Text and Translation	197
Synchronic Analysis	198 199
Diachronic Analysis	202
Notes on the Text and Translation	203
Synchronic Analysis	203
Diachronic Analysis	204
Episode 3: Exod 8:12–15: Gnats	205
Notes on the Text and Translation	205
Synchronic Analysis	205
Diachronic Analysis	206
Second Cycle: Exod 8:16 – 9:12: Vermin – Pestilence of Livestock – Boils	207
Episode 4: Exod 8:16-28: Vermin	207
Notes on the Text and Translation	207
Synchronic Analysis	208
Diachronic Analyse	209 209
Notes on the Text and Translation	210
Synchronic Analysis	210
Diachronic Analysis	210
Episode 6: Exod 9:8–12: Boils	210
Notes on the Text and Translation	211
Synchronic Analysis	211
Diachronic Analysis	212
Third Cycle: Hail - Locusts - Darkness	215
Episode 7: Exod 9:13-35: Hail	215
Notes on the Text and Translation	216

Synchronic Analysis	217
Diachronic Analysis	218
Episode 8: Exod 10:1–20: Locusts	218
Notes on the Text and Translation	219
Synchronic Analysis	220
Diachronic Analysis	221
Episode 9: Exod 10:21-29: Darkness	222
Notes on the Text and Translation	222
Synchronic Analysis	223
Diachronic Analysis	223
Episode 10 and Conclusion of the Plagues Narrative: Exod 11:1-10: An-	
nouncement of the Killing of the Egyptian Firstborn	227
Notes on the Text and Translation	227
Synchronic Analysis	228
Diachronic Analysis	230
Synthesis and History of Interpretation	230
Fifth Narrative Phase: Exod 12:1 – 13:16: Passover-Matzot and the De-	
parture of the Israelites from Egypt	233
Introduction to the Synchronic Interpretation	233
The Twofold Temporal Horizon	233
Statute, Narrative, Commentary: Text Types and Outline	234
Introduction to the Diachronic Interpretation	235
Episode 1: Exod 12:1–20: God's Speech before the Exodus Concerning the	
Regulation of Passover and Matzot	235
Notes on the Text and Translation	236
Synchronic Analysis	238
12:2 Calendar	239
12:3–13 Passover Statutes	239
12:14 Memorial	246
12:15–20 Matzot Statutes	247
Episode 2: 12:21–42: The Narrative of the Departure of the Israelites from	
Egypt	248
Notes on the Text and Translation	249
Synchronic Analysis	251
12:21–23 Moses' Speech to the Elders: Protection and Passover	252
12:24–27a as Commentary: Passover as Future "Service""	253
12:29–39 The Day of Liberation and the Unleavened Bread	255
12:40–42 Concluding Remarks	258
Episode 3: Exod 12:43 – 13:2: Divine Speeches after the Exodus Concerning	
Passover and the Dedication of the Firstborn	259
Notes on the Text and Translation	260
Synchronic Analysis	260
12:43–51 Passover Meal	261
13:1–2 Divine Speech Concerning the Firstborn	263
Episode 4: Exod 13:3–16: Moses' s Speech to the People Concerning Matzot	
and the Dedication of the Firstborn in the Land	264
Notes on the Text and Translation	265

Synchronic Analysis Diachronic Analysis The Older Exodus Narrative and the EM Narrative Passover, Matzot and the Firstborn in the DtrH Passover and Matzot in the P Composition Passover and Matzot in the Torah Composition Synthesis	266 269 270 270 275 277 278
Sixth Narrative Phase: Exod 13:17 - 15:21: The Miracle of the sea	281
Introduction to the Synchronic Interpretation of the Sixth Narrative	201
Phase The Sea-miracle narrative as an (Anti-)War Narrative	281 282
A Mythical Divine War?	284
The Liminality of the Sea-miracle narrative	285
Phase	287
Episode 1: Exod 13:17–22: The Israelites on their Journey	289
Notes on the Text and Translation	289
Synchronic Analysis	290
Diachronic Analysis	294
The Diachronic Transformation of the Location of the Sea Miracle	295
Episode 2: Exod 14:1–14: God lets the Israelites Turn Around and Causes the	293
Egyptians to Pursue Them (Day)	297
Notes on the Text and Translation	298
Synchronic Analysis	299
Diachronic Analysis	304
Episode 3: Exod 14:15–25: Egypt and the Israelites by and in the Sea	304
(Night)	304
Notes on the Text and Translation	305
Synchronic Analysis	306
Diachronic Analysis	310
Episode 4: Exod 14:26–31: The Egyptian Army Drowns in the Sea – YHWH	310
Saves Israel in the Morning	311
Notes on the Text and Translation	311
Synchronic Analysis	312
Diachronic Analysis	314
Episode 5: Exod 15:1–21: The Morning Praise of the Israelites	316
Notes on the Text and Translation	318
Synchronic Analysis	320
Diachronic Analysis	328
The Song of Moses	328
The Miriam Scene	331
Synthesis and Concluding Observations	332
Bibliography	335
Text Editions and Translations Cited in Abbreviated Form	335
Reference Works Cited in Abbreviated Form	226

Secondary Literature	337
Indexes	349
Index of Hebrew Words	349
Index of Key Words	350
Index of Citations	352
Index of Other Sources	358