

## NOTE ON TRANSLATIONS AND ORTHOGRAPHY

To a large extent, my arguments depend on the accuracy of translations from numerous Mesoamerican languages. I employed the available editions of colonial texts and modern narratives, and whenever possible I contrasted translations of important passages. For the Popol Vuh, I used the modern English translations by Dennis Tedlock and Allen J. Christenson. Especially useful were Christenson's and Munro Edmonson's transcriptions with parallel translation, and Michela E. Craveri's recent Spanish translation, which features abundant lexical notes. In this volume, I quoted passages from both Tedlock's and Christenson's translations, while providing alternate translations in the endnotes.

Following usual conventions used in Maya epigraphy, transliterations of hieroglyphic collocations appear in boldface, using lowercase for syllabic signs and uppercase for logograms. Transcriptions that approximate the reconstructed phonetic spelling of hieroglyphic terms appear in italics.

In general, I respected the orthography of indigenous words in the original sources, instead of opting for modern standardized orthographies. For example, I use the orthography of Francisco Ximénez's manuscript for the names of characters from the Popol Vuh. Unless otherwise noted, I made all translations from Spanish to English.

