

Contents

List of illustrations	5
Acknowledgements	6
Foreword (<i>Hans-Werner Fischer-Elfert</i>)	7
A. The Realm of the Golden Goddess	11
I. Introduction	11
II. The Voice of the Golden Goddess	15
The Texts of the Love Songs	15
The Place of Love Songs in Ancient Egyptian Literature	16
III. Approaching Her	23
The Construction of the History of Sexuality	23
State of Research in Egyptology in Respect of Sexuality and Gender	27
Problems with Egyptian Sexuality	27
Egyptian Sexuality as a Theme in Its Own Right	28
Special Issues: Women	29
Gendering Egypt	36
Gender Theories in Egyptology	44
Excursus: Representations of Women in 18 th Dynasty Tombs	45
Excursus: Ramesside Representations of Women in Selected Texts	46
Excursus: Sex and the Village: Deir el-Medina	47
Summary of Part III	49
IV. New Kingdom of the Golden Goddess	51
Sources	51
The Language	51
Body Parts	52
Sexual Intercourse	58
The Representations	60
Nakedness	63
Aspects of the Realm of the Golden Goddess	64
Regulation or Control?	64
Intimacy and Sexuality in Life and Death – Everyday Encounters	66
Childhood and Youth	66
Marriage	69
Partnerships and Problems	73
Intimate Encounters	75
Same-Sex Desire	80
Aging and Afterlife	86
In place of a Conclusion I	87

B. The Songs	90
Beauty of the Body, Beauty of the Soul. The Wasf Songs	91
Love's Confusing Magic. Confusion Caused by Love	102
Wish You Were Mine. Wishes	111
For All Eternity. The Lovers' Happiness and Wish to Stay Together	127
It Comes in Pints... Intoxication by Love	138
The Power of Love. Love United with Body	143
Love Will Make Me Whole Again. Love's Helping Might and Love Sickness	149
Sub-Theme: Love Sickness	155
Love's Darker Sides. Betrayal and Hurt through Love	157
Unquenchable Desires. Sex, Eroticism	162
Fishing and Fowling. Love in the Marshes	171
Domestic Yet Untamed. Home and Family	182
Love in Foliage and Water. Gardens and Canals	191
A Peasant's Love. Daily Duties	207
Uncertain or Mixed Themes	209
Unidentified	214
In Place of a Conclusion II	219
Appendix A – Sources	222
Appendix B – Tables	231
Table 1 – Spatial and temporal distribution of the sources	231
Table 2 – Incipits	231
References	235
Index	251