

# CONTENTS

Preface ix

Acknowledgments xix

## **Toward an Ethnography of Reading: A Theoretical Framework**

Reading, Otherness, and Cultural Contact 1

## **Nonsense, Dream, and Chaos: The Otherness of Literary Language**

2. Nonsense and Metacommunication: *Alice in Wonderland* 49

3. Joyce, Cage, and Chaos:

*Finnegans Wake*, *Roaratorio*, and French Feminism 71

## **Witches, Mothers, and Male Fantasies: The Otherness of Woman**

4. Seduced by Witches: *The Scarlet Letter* 103

5. Carnival and Abjection:

The Mother's Dead Body in *As I Lay Dying* 124

## **Trauma, Transgression, and Transference: The Otherness of Gender**

6. The Jungle and the Drawing Room: Urban Nomads in *Nightwood* 153

7. "While she lives she invites murder": *The Malady of Death* 170

Notes 185

Works Cited 197

Index 207