

# CONTENTS

Preface	ix
Chapter one: <i>Lolita</i> in <i>Peyton Place</i>	3
Chapter two: Quintessential Middlebrow: The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit Does “The Best He Can with the World as He Sees It”	17
Chapter three: The Novel and Its Readership from Descartes to the Mauve Decade	31
Chapter four: The Shape of the Brows	43
Chapter five: Facing War in Fifties Fiction	61
Chapter six: The Divided Self	83
Chapter seven: Highbrow, Lowbrow, and the Law	99
Chapter eight: Mopping My Brows	117
Appendix: The Fifties	129
Bibliography	143
Index	157