Contents

List of Illustrations xi
Acknowledgments xiii
A Note on Orthography and Pronunciation xviii
Introduction xix
Genealogy xxx

Part I 1884–1910

Chapter 1 Father and Son

‘A special passion’ 3 A noble ethos 6 Educating Lucjan 9 ‘A double life’ 14 Evading father’s gaze 17 Oedipus sighted 21

Chapter 2 Mother Love

Maternal origins 23 Childhood 26 ‘Men of knowledge’ 31 Schooling 33 ‘Owing to illness’ 37 ‘A fanatical devotion’ 39

Chapter 3 Early Travels

‘An enthusiasm for the exotic’ 42 Postcards 45 ‘No language, no penetration!’ 47 Dreaming the Adriatic 49 Venice by the back door 53

Chapter 4 Essential Friendships

Snapshots 56 Fathering genius 58 Zarathustras of Zakopane 63 ‘Rut and debauch’ in Cracow 67

Chapter 5 University Student

Entering the Jagiellonian 73 ‘A bias towards law and regularities’ 75 Professors and mentors 76 The seduction of philosophy 79 The economy of Malinowski’s thinking 85 A naïve realist 88
Chapter 6 Decadents
Parallel lives 91 Bungo and the Duke of Nevermore 93 Triangles 98
A decadent affair 103

Chapter 7 An Ascetic in the Canaries
To the islands 107 The diary of an ascetic 109 'Towards a
concentration of forces' 111 Testing the will 115 'The whip
raised' 118 Oscillations 121 The island world of reflection 123
The emperor's ring 125

Chapter 8 The Music of Love in Leipzig
A travelling affair 128 'Keep a diary!' 131 Dualities 135 Intellectual
dilettantism 137 Annie in Weimar 141 'Decorative loneliness' 142
Happiness regained 144 Stepping Westward 146

Part II 1910–1914

Chapter 9 A London Spring
'A highly developed Anglomania' 151 'Trembling uncertainty' 153
The Cambridge School 156 Reading Rivers 161 Meeting
mentors 165

Chapter 10 Finnish Connections
Starting sociology 168 Wheeler, Czaplicka, Borenius 174 Aborigines
and the family 176 Polish visitors 182 Work and magic in
Portsmouth 184 Stocktaking in Zakopane 189

Chapter 11 Żenia
Slugs of the Sudan 192 A diary of love, work and dreams 194
Love's drama 195 The seduction of study 201 'Sex really is
generous' 204 'I guard against dreams as lies' 206 Working for
Żenia in absenta 209 'Goodbye to happiness' 211 'I take everything
emotionally' 213 The end of the affair 215 The consolation of
Karola 218 'Landed on an unknown shore' 222

Chapter 12 Totems, Teachers and Patron Saints
'Something is happening' 225 Bearding Frazer 227 Wading into
Rivers 233 Pricking Durkheim's bubble 237 Autumn in Poland 241
Fieldwork prospects 245
Chapter 13 Tońska

‘An incomparable mistress’ 247  Farewell to Annie 250  Easter in Ventnor 254  ‘You fool about too much’ 257  Unhappy returns 259 Return to Tońska 263  Equipping the colonial explorer 264  Farewell to Tońska 267

Chapter 14 A Passage to Ceylon

Ship of fools 270  ‘The tropics are beyond all my imagining’ 277 Crossing the line 284

Part III 1914–1920

Chapter 15 An Alien in Australia

First contact 289  The Empire at war 292  Adelaide 294 Melbourne 297  Sydney 300  Brisbane: ‘Finis amicitiae’ 302 ‘An expedition all on my own to the tropics’ 306

Chapter 16 ‘The Promised Land’

A view from the verandah 309  Murray’s Papua 313  Beginning fieldwork 318  Expedition to the Laloki 323  ‘A burden to the Commonwealth’ 325  Sailing to Mailu 327

Chapter 17 Mailu

In the realm of the missionary 329  Alienation 334  ‘Haddon & Co.’ 337  ‘Touches of colour’ 339  To Samarai and Suau 342 Mailu revisited 347

Chapter 18 Sinaugolo

Moresby interlude 353  The English domain at Rigo 354  Woodlark Island 359  ‘I have decidedly won a victory’ 360

Chapter 19 Autumn in Adelaide

An arresting welcome 364  Writing Mailu 367  The politics of publishing 374  ‘One of the most beautiful young women’ 378 ‘Gate to the field’ 380

Chapter 20 Kiriwina

The government officer’s Trobriands 383  Trouble with magistrates 387 The capital of Kiriwina 390  Enter the Ethnographer 394  ‘The kaleidoscope of tribal life’ 397  ‘Sensual temptations’ 402  ‘My Dear Seligman’ 405  ‘My dearest little son’ 409  Nina the muse 411
Chapter 21 Melbourne Maladies
‘Only integrate’ 415 ‘The first epoch’ 417 Friends in need 421
Writing Baloma 427 Ancestral approval 434 Indiscretions, calumnies
and restrictions 437 ‘Health: the basic element’ 442

Chapter 22 Elsie Rosaline
The Massons 449 Trotsky of the wards 452 The Clan 457
Troublesome triangles 460 The test of Adelaide 465 ‘Kiriwina’, a
monograph unborn 467 Reluctant departures 472

Chapter 23 Samarai
The voyage of the Makambo 474 The odyssey resumed 478 A prisoner
of conscience 479 Diaries 482 Doubles 486 ‘Signing on’ 490

Chapter 24 Return to the Islands
The traders’ Trobriands 494 Tenting in Oburaku 502 ‘I let the time do
the rest’ 504 ‘The condition of the performer’ 509 ‘The shadow of
death’ 513 ‘The heroic struggle against illness’ 517 The turmoil of
letters 520 The Ethnographer’s legend 526

Chapter 25 Fear, Love and Loathing
‘Creating’ the Amphletts 531 Lies and superstitions 537 Francophilia in
Sinaketa 540 Tiberius in Vakuta 544 A linguistic interlude 551

Chapter 26 ‘A Most Damnable Lack of Character’
Children of Teyava 553 ‘I am extremely ambitious’ 557 Mourning in
Omarakana 560 Plots and counter-ploys 562 ‘Truly I lack real
character’ 566 ‘A state of metaphysical instability’ 570

Chapter 27 Marriage
Leaving the field 573 An unsuitable suitor 576 ‘A definite
methodological mission’ 579 Keeping the vigil 582 The wedding 587
Seminars on ‘social ideas’ 590

Chapter 28 Country Retreats
Under the cupola 594 Escape to Wangaratta 597 Nursing Paul 600
Particles in Whitfield 602 A museum display 605
Adieu to Australia 608

Abbreviations
Notes
Bibliography
Index
List of Illustrations

Figures
1. Facsimile of the first page of Malinowski’s New Guinea diary. Port Moresby, 20 September 1914 (Original in MPLSE) 308
2. Facsimile of Malinowski’s third synoptic diary-chart, ‘Retrospect of Life in Melbourne, 3rd Epoch’ (Original in MPY II/204) 417
3. Facsimile page of Malinowski’s field notes in English and Kiriwinian, January 1918 (Original in Loose Fieldnotes, MPLSE) 508

Maps
2. Mailu Island and the adjacent coast of Papua (Bronislaw Malinowski, A Diary in the Strict Sense of the Term. London: Routledge, 1967) 330
3. Malinowski’s sketch map of the Trobriand Islands, showing the villages and districts of Kiriwina (Original in Loose Fieldnotes, MPLSE) 395
4. The islands of the Massim (Cartography Unit of the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University) 495

Plates between pages 258–9
1. Lucjan Malinowski (Helena Wayne)
2. Józefa Łacka (Helena Wayne)
3. Józefa Malinowska and baby Bronio, c. 1885 (Helena Wayne)
4. Schoolboy Bronio in gymnasium uniform, c. 1895 (Helena Wayne)
5. Józefa Malinowska and Bronio in a Bedouin camp, North Africa, c. 1904 (Helena Wayne)
6. Malinowski in Algeria, c. 1904 (Helena Wayne)
7. Malinowski and his mother, c. 1906 (Helena Wayne)
8. Bronislaw Kasper Malinowski following the award of his doctorate. Cracow, 7 November 1908 (Helena Wayne)
9. Stanislaw Witkiewicz with his son Stanislaw Ignacy Witkiewicz. Lovran, 1913 (Tatra Museum, Zakopane)
10. Staś Witkiewicz, Helena Biedrzycka and Bronislaw Malinowski. Zakopane, 1911 (Tatra Museum, Zakopane)
List of Illustrations

11. Zofia Dembowska (Marisha Romer)
13. Seligmann taking notes in Hula, Central Division. British New Guinea, 1898 (Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology)
14. Edward Westermarck (Åbo Akademi, Turku)
15. Sir James Frazer, c. 1914 (Rowan Collection)
17. Joseph Conrad and Karola Zagórska. 'Oswalds', Kent, summer 1920

Plates between pages 248 and 250

25. Nina Stirling in the garden at St Vigeans (Stirling Papers, Matlock Library, Adelaide)
26. Malinowski in the tropics, c. 1914 (MPLSE)
27. Elsie Masson, c. 1916 (Helena Wayne)
28. The Makambo leaving Samarai wharf, November 1917 (MPLSE)
29. A Dobuan canoe in the Amphlett Islands, March 1918 (MPLSE)
31. Malinowski watching children at play. Teyava village, Kiriwina, May 1918 (MPLSE)
32. Malinowski's tent in Omarakana (MPLSE)
33. Mick George's house at Kiribi. Kiriwina Island, 1918 (MPLSE)
34. Ilakaise, the youngest of Chief Toulwua's wives, standing in front of her annual 'dowry', July 1918 (MPLSE)
18. ‘The fear of life in Malinowski’, 1912. Charcoal drawing (lost) by Staś Witkiewicz
19. David Orme Masson at his lecture bench. University of Melbourne, 1913 (Helena Wayne)
20. Baldwin Spencer, c. 1913 (Rowan Collection)
23. Mailu dancers (Malinowski, *The Natives of Mailu*)
24. Resting dancers at a *soi feast* in Suau (Malinowski, *The Natives of Mailu*)

In pages 514–15

35. The decorated corpse of Ineykoya, supported by her husband Toyodala. Oburaku, 25 January 1918 (MPLSE)
36. Billy Hancock inspecting pearls outside his store at Gusaweta (MPLSE)
37. Chief Touluwa ceremonially receiving a *soulava* necklace from his favourite son, Namwana Guyau. Omarakana, November 1915 (MPLSE)
38. Malinowski, Hede Khuner, Elsie Masson and Mim Weigall outside ‘Carinya’. Melbourne, late 1918 (Helena Wayne)
39. Paul Khuner. Melbourne, c. 1918 (Helena Wayne)
40. Elsie Malinowska in her wedding dress on the steps of the Melbourne Museum and Public Library, 6 March 1919 (Helena Wayne)
41. Elsie Malinowska relaxing in Whitfield, late 1919 (Helena Wayne)
42. Marnie Masson bidding farewell to the *Borda*. Melbourne, 26 February 1920 (Helena Wayne)
List of Illustrations

Figures

1. Facsimile of the first page of Malinowski's New Guinea diary. Port Moresby, 20 September 1914 (Original in MPLSE) 308
2. Facsimile of Malinowski's third synoptic diary-chart,

Maps

2. Mailu Island and the adjacent coast of Papua (Bronislaw Malinowski, A Diary in the Strict Sense of the Term. London: Routledge, 1967) 330

Plates between

1. Lucjan Malinowski (Helena Wayne)
2. Józefa Łacka (Helena Wayne)
3. Józefa Malinowska and baby Bronio, c. 1885 (Helena Wayne)
4. Schoolboy Bronio in gymnasium uniform, c. 1895 (Helena Wayne)
5. Józefa Malinowska and Bronio in a Bedouin camp. North Africa, c. 1904 (Helena Wayne)
6. Malinowski in Algeria, c. 1904 (Helena Wayne)
Illustrations

Figures

1. 'Retrospect of Life in Melbourne, 3rd Epoch'
   (Original in MPY II/204) 417

2. Facsimile page of Malinowski's field notes in English and Kiriwinian, January 1918 (Original in Loose Fieldnotes, MPLSE) 508

Maps

3. Malinowski's sketch map of the Trobriand Islands, showing the villages and districts of Kiriwin (Original in Loose Fieldnotes, MPLSE) 395

4. The islands of the Massim (Cartography Unit of the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University) 495

On pages 258–9

7. Malinowski and his mother, c. 1906 (Helena Wayne)
8. Bronislaw Kasper Malinowski following the award of his doctorate, Cracow, 7 November 1908 (Helena Wayne)
9. Stanislaw Witkiewicz with his son Stanislaw Ignacy Witkiewicz Lowran, 1913 (Tatra Museum, Zakopane)
10. Staś Witkiewicz, Helena Biedrzychka and Bronislaw Malinowski, Zakopane, 1911 (Tatra Museum, Zakopane)