Contents

Introduction	1
1. The Idyll and German Identity	14
The Middle-Class Idyll: Goethe and Voss From the Tragic to the Ironic Idyll Epic, Parody and a German Classical Literature	
2. Prosperity and Progress in the Home Town	23
Idyllic Perspectives: The Innkeeper and the Apothecary Internal Crisis and Social Change Social Relationships and Individual Self-Perception	
Excursus: Parody of Voss's Luise	36
3. The Revival of Traditional Values	41
Disruption and Provocation Alienation in the Home Town Hermann's Transfigured Fatherland The Inadequacy of <i>Gemeinschaft</i> : The Mother	
Excursus: Language and the Nation in Eighteenth-Century Germany	63
4. The Crisis of Enlightenment	69
The Failure of Freedom: The Judge The Critique of Dogmatic Enlightenment: The Vicar	
5. The Critical Idyll	81
Perception and Reality in the Idyll History and Literary Form: The Function of the "Idyllic" in Hermann und Dorothea	

6. The Paradigm of Individual Identity	90
Dorothea and Ruth Dorothea and Iphigenie Dorothea in the Home Town	
7. The Story of the Salzburg Protestants	100
Göcking's Source Story The Transposition from 1731 to 1796	
8. The Restitution of Idyll?	106
Life and Death in the Idyll The Final Retarding Moment The Tragedy of Revolutionary Enlightenment The Nation as Gemeinschaft	
Excursus: Revolutionary Enlightenment, the German Jacobins, and Dorothea's First Fiancé	121
Conclusion: Paradox in the Idyll	136
Appendix: "Das erste Volksgedicht" The Critical Reception of Hermann und Dorothea	140
Ordnung, Sittlichkeit and the Beginnings of a German Classical Canon (1798-1814) National Identity and Political Liberty (1814-1848) The Bildung of the Nation (1848-1918) Europe and the Volk (The Nazi Period) In the Shadow of Nazism (1949-1968) "A Sleeping Hercules" — Re-Evaluations of German Identity (1970-1989)	
Bibliography to Hermann und Dorothea	163
General Bibliography	168
Index	178