

CONTENTS

Foreword by Gerald Graff v

Preface ix

INTRODUCTION: FALLING INTO THEORY 1

PART ONE: WHY WE READ

The University, the Humanities, and the Province of Literature 15

HELEN VENDLER

What We Have Loved, Others Will Love 31

GERALD GRAFF

Disliking Books at an Early Age 41

TERRY EAGLETON

The Rise of English 49

GAURI VISWANATHAN

Introduction to *Masks of Conquest* 60

PAULO FREIRE

The "Banking" Concept of Education 68

BELL HOOKS

Toward a Revolutionary Feminist Pedagogy 79

GERTRUDE HIMMELFARB

The New Advocacy and the Old 85

RICHARD OHMANN

The Function of English at the Present Time 89

SIMON DURING

Teaching Culture 96

- LOUIS MENAND
The Demise of Disciplinary Authority 103

- ROBERT SCHOLES
A Fortunate Fall? 111

PART TWO: WHAT WE READ
The Literary Canon and the Curriculum after the Culture Wars 121

- JANE TOMPKINS
Masterpiece Theater:
The Politics of Hawthorne's Literary Reputation 137

- BARBARA HERRNSTEIN SMITH
Contingencies of Value 147

- LILLIAN S. ROBINSON
Treason Our Text:
Feminist Challenges to the Literary Canon 153

- GILLES DELEUZE AND
FÉLIX GUATTARI
What Is a Minor Literature? 167

- HENRY LOUIS GATES JR.
Canon-Formation, Literary History,
and the Afro-American Tradition:
From the Seen to the Told 175

- EVE KOSOFSKY SEDGWICK
From *Epistemology of the Closet* 183

- EDWARD W. SAID
The Politics of Knowledge 189

- JANICE A. RADWAY
Introduction to *A Feeling for Books* 199

- ALAN PURVES
Telling Our Story about Teaching Literature 211

- JOHN GUILLORY
The Canon as Cultural Capital 218

- HAROLD BLOOM
Elegiac Conclusion 225

PART THREE: HOW WE READ*Interpretive Communities and Literary Meaning* 235

ROLAND BARTHES

The Death of the Author 253

PETER RABINOWITZ

Actual Reader and Authorial Reader 258

STANLEY FISH

How to Recognize a Poem When You See One 268

REED WAY DASENBROCK

Do We Write the Text We Read? 278

SANDRA M. GILBERT AND

SUSAN GUBAR

The Female Swerve 290

TORIL MOI

From *Sexual/Textual Politics* 295

ANNETTE KOLODNY

Dancing through the Minefield:

Some Observations on the Theory, Practice, and Politics
of a Feminist Literary Criticism 302

TONI MORRISON

Black Matter(s) 310

CHINUA ACHEBE

An Image of Africa 323

WILSON HARRIS

The Frontier on Which *Heart of Darkness* Stands 334

GAYATRI CHAKRAVORTY SPIVAK

Imperialism and Sexual Difference 340

WAYNE C. BOOTH

Who Is Responsible in Ethical Criticism, and for What? 349

MARTHA C. NUSSBAUM

The Literary Imagination 356

HERBERT F. TUCKER

Wanted Dead or Alive: Browning's Historicism 366

GEORGE LEVINE
Reclaiming the Aesthetic 378

MICHAEL BÉRUBÉ
Aesthetics and the Literal Imagination 391

Appendix 399

Index 405