

# Contents

Preface: Nobody's Home	ix
Introduction: Everybody's Family Romance	i
1. Laying Down the Law: The Modernization of American Incest	26
2. Legal Fantasies: Populist Trauma and the Theater of Memory	69
3. Seduction by Literature: Sexual Property and Testimonial Possession	114
4. Surviving the Family Romance? Realism and the Labor of Incest	152
5. Consensual Relations: The Scattered Generations of Kinship	188
Conclusion: Beyond the Incest Taboo	228
Acknowledgments	239
Notes	243
Bibliography	265
Index	299