Contents

Acknowledgments	Ackno	owledgments	ix
-----------------	-------	-------------	----

Preface

Permissible Savag'ry xi

Introduction

1 Definitions and Locations 7 Magical Realism between Modern

and Postmodern Fiction

Definitions

Locations

2 "From a Far Source Within" 4

Magical Realism as Defocalized Narrative

Defocalization

Postmodern Primitivists

The Presence of Spirit

Shamanistic Narrative Healing

3 Encoding the Ineffable 88

A Textual Poetics for Magical Realism

Magical Details, Naïve Narrators,

Indeterminate Spaces and Times, the Oneiric Optic

Bridges

Two-Way Streets

Narrative Distances and Chinese Boxes

Mirroring

4 "Along the Knife-Edge of Change"

133

170

Magical Realism and the

Postcolonial Dynamics of Alterity

Decolonization

Historical Realities

Ventriloquism

Transculturation

Recent Literary History and Cultural Politics

5 "Women and Women and Women"

A Feminine Element in Magical Realism

Housekeeping

"Virgin Paper"; or, Inhabiting Female Bodies

The Female Body of Writing

Cooking

Territorial Magic

"La Mystérique"

Notes 221

Works Consulted 279

Index 301