

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	viii
<i>Prospectus for a New Study of Sensation Novels</i>	xi
1 Taxonomies of Stimulation: Science, Gender and Sexuality in the Sensation Novel Debate	1
The invention of the sensation novel: three early reviewers	1
The debate intensifies: responses to the early reviewers	24
Gender and sexuality in parodies of the sensation novel debate	42
2 Magnetic Science and the Sensation Novel: Stimulating Bodies, Senses and Souls	56
The interrelated histories of mesmerism, spiritualism and the sensation novel	56
Mesmeric and erotic affinities in <i>The Woman in White</i>	70
Bodily pleasures and spiritual unions in <i>Cometh Up as a Flower</i>	88
3 Social Science and the Rise of the Sensation Heroine: Reconfiguring the Female Breeding Body	107
From economics to evolution: sensationalizing courtship, marriage and reproduction	107
<i>Great Expectations</i> : Estella's subtle sensations	123
<i>Aurora Floyd</i> : a manifesto for the sensation heroine	137
<i>St Martin's Eve</i> : variations of the sensation heroine	161
Afterword: The Afterlife of the Sensation Novel	181
<i>Notes</i>	185
<i>Bibliography</i>	211
<i>Index</i>	220