

Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction	
SUZANNE FERRISS AND MALLORY YOUNG	1
Part I The Hatching of a Genre: Origins and Influences	
1 Who's Laughing Now? A Short History of Chick Lit and the Perversion of a Genre	
CRIS MAZZA	17
2 Tradition and Displacement in the New Novel of Manners	
STEPHANIE HARZEWSKI	29
3 Mothers of Chick Lit? Women Writers, Readers, and Literary History	
JULIETTE WELLS	47
4 Narrative and Cinematic Doubleness: <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> and <i>Bridget Jones's Diary</i>	
SUZANNE FERRISS	71
Part II Free Range: Varieties and Variations	
5 "Sistahs Are Doin' It for Themselves": Chick Lit in Black and White	
LISA A. GUERRERO	87

6	Long-Suffering Professional Females: The Case of Nanny Lit ELIZABETH HALE	103
7	You Are Not Alone: The Personal, the Political, and the “New” Mommy Lit HEATHER HEWETT	119
8	Chick Lit Jr.: More Than Glitz and Glamour for Teens and Tweens JOANNA WEBB JOHNSON	141
9	Ya Yas, Grits, and Sweet Potato Queens: Contemporary Southern Belles and the Prescriptions That Guide Them ELIZABETH B. BOYD	159
10	Bridget Jones and Hungarian Chick Lit NÓRA SÉLLEI	173
Part III Sex and the Single Chick: Feminism and Postfeminism, Sexuality and Self-Fashioning		
11	About a Girl: Female Subjectivity and Sexuality in Contemporary ‘Chick’ Culture A. ROCHELLE MABRY	191
12	No Satisfaction: <i>Sex and the City</i> , <i>Run Catch Kiss</i> , and the Conflict of Desires in Chick Lit’s New Heroines ANNA KIERNAN	207
13	Fashionably Indebted: Conspicuous Consumption, Fashion, and Romance in Sophie Kinsella’s Shopaholic Trilogy JESSICA LYN VAN SLOOTEN	219
14	Supersizing Bridget Jones: What’s Really Eating the Women in Chick Lit ALISON UMMINGER	239
	Afterword: The New Woman’s Fiction SHARI BENSTOCK	253
	Selected Bibliography	257
	Contributors	261
	Index	265