Contents

| | Preface | ix |
|---|---|------|
| | Acknowledgments | xi |
| | Elizabethan comic prose and drama: a chronology | xiii |
| | | |
| | FART I | |
| 1 | Literary grotesque: a sixteenth-century background | 3 |
| 2 | The low style in Elizabethan comic prose 1 The low style and the grotesque · 18 2 Aretino and Nashe · 26 | 18 |
| 3 | Comedy and violence in Elizabethan pamphlet literature | 37 |
| 4 | Nashe and the beginning of satirical journalism 1 Preaching and satire · 50 2 The school of Nashe · 55 | 50 |
| 5 | The grotesque and satirical comedy 1 Satire and the theatres · 63 2 Student drama; Dekker; Middleton · 70 | 63 |
| | PART II | |
| 6 | Shakespearean grotesque: the Falstaff plays 1 Nashe and Shakespeare · 89 2 The drama of the body: Henry IV, part one · 99 3 The body purged: Henry IV, part two · 113 4 The death of Falstaff · 122 | 89 |

viii Contents

| 7 | Jonsonian grotesque: Every Man Out of his Humour and Bartholomew Fair 1 Lenten stuff · 131 2 The fatness of the fair · 141 | 131 |
|---|--|-----|
| | Conclusion | 156 |
| | Notes | 166 |
| | Select bibliography | 189 |
| | Index | 203 |