

# Contents

Preface	<i>page</i> vii
Introduction: The worlds of Victorian sexuality •	i
1 • Coming of age in the nineteenth century	7
2 • Charlotte on the couch: the perils of posthumous analysis	31
3 • Exploring sexuality: life in the world below	40
4 • Problematics of a sexual success story: <i>The Professor</i>	72
5 • Sexual awakening in the romance world: <i>Jane Eyre</i>	93
6 • Brontë and her society: censorship and sexual literature	145
7 • Women, society, and sexuality: <i>Shirley</i>	150
8 • Complexities of sexual awakening in the realistic world: <i>Villette</i>	164
• Appendix: The diagnosis of Charlotte Brontë's final illness	218
Notes	225
Index	257