# Holocaust Impiety in Jewish American Literature

Memory, Identity, (Post-)Postmodernism

*By*Joos Krijnen



BRILL Rodopi

LEIDEN | BOSTON

# **Contents**

Introduction

Ever After Auschwitz: Holocaust Piety, Impiety, and Jewish American Fiction 1

#### PART 1

### Memory

- 1 Historical Consciousness and the Americanization of the Holocaust 23
- 2 The Dynamic of Distance The Memory of the Holocaust in Everything Is Illuminated, The History of Love, and The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay 51

#### PART 2

## **Identity**

- 3 Jewish American Identity and the Holocaust 83
- 4 Inventing Jewish Worlds

  Identity, History, and the Holocaust in Everything Is Illuminated,
  The History of Love, The Ministry of Special Cases, and The Yiddish
  Policemen's Union 107

## PART 3 (Post-)Postmodernism

- 5 Cultivating the Desert
  Pragmatist Reconfigurations of Postmodernism 149
- 6 Post-Postmodern "Entertainment"

  The Holocaust and Renewalism in The Amazing Adventures
  of Kavalier & Clay, Everything Is Illuminated, The History of Love,
  and Great House 181

Afterword
An American Story 223

Bibliography 231 Index 241