
CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	ix
I. Language as Diminisher and Destroyer	3
II. Christianity as Facilitator	18
III. Women as <i>Memento Mori</i>	35
IV. Poe's Most Poetic Subject	44
V. Adultery and Death: Clarissa, Emma, Maggie, Anna, Tess, Edna	58
VI. The Death Aura Perpetuated in Modern Poetry	128
VII. Twentieth-Century Fiction: D. H. Lawrence, Doris Lessing, Margaret Drabble, E. L. Doctorow, Joseph Heller	149
VIII. Topographical and Astronomical Images in Adrienne Rich's Poetry	179
IX. Afterword	190
<i>Appendix</i>	193
<i>Selected Bibliography</i>	209
<i>Index</i>	211