

Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction	1
1. Unwriting Orpheus: Swinburne's "Ave atque Vale" and the "New" Elegy	26
2. "Woman Much Missed": Writing Eurydice in Hardy's <i>Poems of 1912-13</i>	43
3. The Fading of Orpheus: Women's Elegies	62
4. Avatars of Eurydice: John Berryman's <i>Dream Songs</i>	83
5. Beyond Mourning and Melancholia: AIDS Elegies	107
6. Against Elegies: Women's Breast Cancer Poems	135
Afterword: Why Elegies?	166
Notes	169
Index	189