

C O N T E N T S

Acknowledgments xi

Introduction	1
1 Welcome to the Rhizosphere	14
Some Thoughts on Metaphor	15
Generation Radix	19
Home Is Where the Root Is	21
Jung and Bachelard Go Deep: The Root as Subconscious Image	24
Radical Evil: Of Mandrakes and Wurzelmännchen	32
2 Radical Poetry	38
Ponge and the Plant's Immobility	39
Into Thin Air: Celan's "Radix, Matrix"	43
Guillevic's Radical Trying	50
The Awkward Human: Levertov and Ecological Alienation	66
3 Roots and Transcendence	75
Verticality and the Root	78
Claudel's Rooted Crucifix	84
Valéry and the Vegetal Brain	92
Inversion and Conversion	95
Monsieur Teste, Botanical Thinker	100
Tournier and the Upending of Western Culture	103

4	Saving Europe from Itself: Weil's <i>Enracinement</i> and Heidegger's <i>Bodenständigkeit</i>	111
	Talk of Roots in the Air: <i>La querelle du peuplier</i>	112
	Weil's Fear of Abstraction	127
	Heidegger the <i>Terroiriste</i>	138
5	Sartre, Phenomenology, and the Root	155
	The Nausea-Inducing Root of Being	156
	Sartre's Autobiographical Tree	165
	Phenomenology's Search for Ground	171
6	Etymology and Essence: The Primeval Power of Word Roots	178
	The Etymological Obsession	180
	German Ideological Etymology	195
	Paulhan's Etymological Skepticism	200
	Derrida's Deracination of Language	203
	Blanchot and the Etymon's Danger	210
7	From Rhizome to Vegetal Democracy	216
	The Cryptic Rhizome of Deleuze and Guattari	218
	The Postmodern Plantation	236
	Neo-Paganism and Plant Democracy	241

Bibliography 255

Index 269