

Table of Contents

Acknowledgments.....	9
1 Introduction: Classical Myth and Nineteenth-Century American Women's Fiction.....	11
1.1 Women Writers' Innovative Work on Myth, 1800-1900....	11
1.2 Literature Review	15
2 Myth, <i>Pathos Formulae</i> , and Women's Revisionist Mythmaking....	25
2.1 Working on Myth with <i>Pathos Formulae</i>	25
2.2 <i>Pathos Formulae</i> and the Polarity of the Symbol	41
2.3 Deliberately Out of Bounds: Women's Work on Classical Myth	50
3 Dionysian Frenzies in Catharine Maria Sedgwick's <i>A New-England Tale</i>	67
3.1 Maenad-in-Motion	67
3.2 What Manner of Intoxication?	75
3.2.1 Inspired to Love, Inspired to Live: Bet and Jane as True Dionysian Followers	77
3.2.2 Apollo's Mission: Reward vs. Punishment	88
3.2.3 The Dionysian Frenzy of Everyday Life in Sedgwick's Social Canvas	92
3.3 The Artistic Layering of Sedgwick's Realist Mythology ..	109
4 The Trials of Psyche: Ancient Mysteries in Lydia Maria Child's <i>Philothea</i>	113
4.1 Deficient in Repose.....	113
4.2 Synthomorphosis and Metamorphosis in <i>Philothea</i>	119
4.2.1 <i>Philothea</i> and the Love of the Soul	120
4.2.2 <i>Philothea</i> and Sacred Marriage	125
4.2.3 <i>Philothea</i> , the <i>Panathenaia</i> , and Domestic Ideology	134

4.2.4 From Eve to Psyche: Eudora’s Temptation and <i>Sophrosyne</i>	147
4.2.5 Eudora’s/Psyche’s Ascent.....	157
4.3 The Language of the Ancient Mysteries	163
4.4 Philothea, Eudora, and the Archive of (Mental) Images....	166
 5 Jason and the Sphinx: Elizabeth Stoddard’s Discrepant New England Mythologies.....	169
5.1 The Writings of Elizabeth Stoddard	169
5.2 Stoddard’s <i>Two Men</i>	172
5.3 Two Men, Two Jasons	173
5.3.1 Jason, Stranger among the Boston Brahmins	176
5.3.2 Parke, A High Culture Hero in Crisis.....	184
5.4 Stoddard’s Discrepant Mythological Iconographies	192
5.4.1 Jason and the Feast of the Gods	195
5.4.2 Stoddard’s Floral Grotesques	202
5.4.3 Priapus Meets Mercury	209
5.4.4 Medea, the American Sphinx, and Female Self- Possession	216
5.5 Jason/Hermes and the Sphinx	223
 6 Isiac Womanhood in Elizabeth Stuart Phelps’s <i>The Story of Avis</i> ...	225
6.1 Writing “Woman” for Women.....	225
6.2 The Moving Panorama and Avis’s Initiation into the Mysteries of Isis.....	230
6.3 Phelps’s Isiac Mythmaking.....	238
6.3.1 <i>Isis Myrionymos</i>	249
6.3.2 <i>Isis, Mater Dolorosa</i> , and Mythical Wailing Woman.....	259
6.4 Phelps’s Composite Soul Landscapes.....	262
6.4.1 Avis’s Magnetism and Fuller’s Red Carbuncle.....	266
6.4.2 Avis as Artist-Intellectual, Goddess, and Divine Soul	270
6.5 No American Eve	283
 7 Galatea’s Sufferings in Louisa May Alcott’s <i>A Modern Mephistopheles</i>	285
7.1 Of Marble Women and Sleeping Nymphs	285
7.2 <i>A Modern Mephistopheles</i>	291

7.3 Doubling Pygmalion's Creation	292
7.3.1 Alcott's Sleeping Nymph.....	296
7.3.2 The Sorrows and Sufferings of Alcott's Marble Woman	310
7.4 The Intensification of Alcott's "Tear-Shedding Heart"	322
8 With Pathos <i>and Logos</i>	327
9 Bibliography	333
10 List of Illustrations	362