

# Contents



	PREFACE	ix
	INTRODUCTION	
	How'd He Do That?	xxi
1.	Every Trip Is a Quest (Except When It's Not)	1
2.	Nice to Eat with You: Acts of Communion	7
3.	Nice to Eat You: Acts of Vampires	15
4.	Now, Where Have I Seen Her Before?	23
5.	When in Doubt, It's from Shakespeare . . .	32
6.	. . . Or the Bible	42
7.	Hanseldee and Greteldum	52
8.	It's Greek to Me	59
9.	It's More Than Just Rain or Snow	69
10.	Never Stand Next to the Hero	76
	INTERLUDE	
	Does He Mean That?	90
11.	. . . More Than It's Gonna Hurt You: Concerning Violence	94

12.	Is That a Symbol?	104
13.	It's All Political	115
14.	Yes, She's a Christ Figure, Too	124
15.	Flights of Fancy	133
16.	It's All About Sex . . .	143
17.	. . . Except Sex	151
18.	If She Comes Up, It's Baptism	160
19.	Geography Matters . . .	171
20.	. . . So Does Season	183
	INTERLUDE	
	One Story	193
21.	Marked for Greatness	201
22.	He's Blind for a Reason, You Know	209
23.	It's Never Just Heart Disease . . . And Rarely Just Illness	215
24.	Don't Read with Your Eyes	232
25.	It's My Symbol and I'll Cry If I Want To	240
26.	Is He Serious? And Other Ironies	252
27.	A Test Case	262
	POSTLUDE:	
	Who's in Charge Here?	295
	ENVOI	302
	APPENDIX	
	Reading List	307
	ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	323
	INDEX	325