Contents

Notes on the Contributors vii

Introduction Thomas F. Staley xi

1 Passionate Portrayal of Things to Come: Doris Lessing's recent fiction Sydney Janet Kaplan 1

2 The Wages of Intellectuality . . . and the Fictional Wagers of Iris Murdoch Kingsley Widmer 16

3 Olivia Manning: witness to history Harry J. Mooney, Jr. 39

4 Women Victimized by Fiction: living and loving in the novels of Barbara Pym Barbara Brothers 61

5 Cold Enclosures: the fiction of Susan Hill Rosemary Jackson 81

6 The Clinical World of P. D. James Bernard Benstock 104

7 Women and Children First: the novels of Margaret Drabble Gail Cunningham 130

8 Muriel Spark: the novelist as dandy William McBrien 153

9 Edna O'Brien: a kind of Irish childhood Darcy O'Brien 179

10 The Masculine World of Jennifer Johnston Shari Benstock 191

Index 218