

# CONTENTS

*Preface* ix

## **PART 1 · ON THE EXPLANATORY POWER OF RHETORICAL POETICS**

INTRODUCTION	Principles of Rhetorical Poetics	3
CHAPTER 1	<i>Somebody Telling Somebody Else: Authors, Resources, Audiences</i>	13
CHAPTER 2	<i>Somebody Telling Somebody Else: Audiences and Probable Impossibilities</i>	30

## **PART 2 · RESOURCES: GENERIC FRAMES, TECHNIQUES, OCCASIONS—AND SYNERGIES**

INTRODUCTION	Constructing a Rhetorical Poetics	63
CHAPTER 3	<i>Probability in Fiction and Nonfiction: Pride and Prejudice and The Year of Magical Thinking</i>	67
CHAPTER 4	<i>Engaging the Stubborn: Narrative Speed and Readerly Judgments in Franz Kafka's "Das Urteil"</i>	82
CHAPTER 5	<i>Estranging Unreliability, Bonding Unreliability, and the Ethics of Lolita</i>	96
CHAPTER 6	<i>The How and Why of Backward Narration in Martin Amis's Time's Arrow</i>	117
CHAPTER 7	<i>"I affirm nothing": Lord Jim and the Uses of Textual Recalcitrance</i>	135
CHAPTER 8	<i>Toni Morrison's Determinate Ambiguity in "Recitatif"</i>	150

CHAPTER 9	Conversational and Authorial Disclosure in Dialogue Narrative: George Higgins's <i>The Friends of Eddie Coyle</i> and John O'Hara's "Appearances"	168
CHAPTER 10	The Implied Author, Deficient Narration, and Nonfiction Narrative: Joan Didion's <i>The Year of Magical Thinking</i> and Jean-Dominique Bauby's <i>The Diving Bell and the Butterfly</i>	195
CHAPTER 11	Reliability, Dialogue, and Crossover Effects in Jhumpa Lahiri's "The Third and Final Continent"	215
CHAPTER 12	Reliable, Unreliable, and Deficient Narration: Toward a Rhetorical Poetics	230
CHAPTER 13	Occasions of Narration and the Functions of Narrative Segments in <i>Enduring Love</i>	239
CONCLUSION	Reflections on the How and Why of Rhetorical Poetics	257
	<i>Works Cited</i>	261
	<i>Index</i>	269