Contents

Preface VII

Catherine Z. Elgin Imaginative Investigations: Thought Experiments in Science, Philosophy and Literature 1

Gottfried Gabriel The Cognitive Value and Ethical Relevance of Fictional Literature 17

Christiane Schildknecht Fiction as Thought Experiment? 31

Falk Bornmüller and Mathis Lessau Are Thought-Experiments Always Arguments and Does Literature Literally Re-present? 43

Julia Langkau Thought Experiments from Fiction 57

Wolfgang Huemer Power and Limits of a Picture: On the Notion of Thought Experiments in Philosophy of Literature 71

Arne Willée Thought Experiments as a Narrative Genre 83

Eva-Maria Konrad Counterfactual Literature as Thought Experiment 97

Katja Hettich The Literary Thought Experiment as Emotional Experience: Émile Zola's Thérèse Raquin (1867) 109

Íngrid Vendrell Ferran Narrative Fiction as Philosophical Exploration: A Case Study on Self-Envy and Akrasia 123



Giulia Agostini

Projecting Spaces of Thought: The Geometrical Figure in the Works of Samuel Beckett and Julio Cortázar 139

Alexander Fischer

Guinea Pigs in a Terrarium? Albert Camus' *The Plague* as a Thought Experiment 155

Sophia Alt, Caterina Brand, Vanessa Haazipolo The Physicists by Friedrich Dürrenmatt – a Paradoxical Thought Experiment about Scientific Responsibility 171

Stephan Packard

Conjugations of the >What If<: Golden Age Science Fiction: From Thought Experiment to Narrative Critique 185

Loreen Dalski

The Epistemic Potential of Boredom: Wilhelm Genazino's *If we were animals* as a Thought Experiment 203

Johannes Franzen

Alternate Lives: Autofictional Thought Experiments in *Lunar Park* by Bret Easton Ellis 217