

# Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	vii
<i>Preface</i>	ix
1 Introduction	1
Preliminaries, 1	
The Exclusion, 2	
The Dominant Model of Moral Philosophy, 5	
Philosophical Genre and the Dominant Model, 8	
Five Forms, Five Philosophers, 11	
2 Catharine Macaulay's <i>Letters on Education</i> : What Constitutes a Philosophical System	17
Biography, 18	
<i>Letters on Education</i> , 19	
The Problems of the Epistolary Form, 23	
Macaulay's Work, 28	
The Argument for Women, 35	
The Second and Third Parts of <i>Letters on Education</i> , 36	
The Argument of <i>Letters on Education</i> , 42	
Conclusion, 44	
3 Allegory and Moral Philosophy in Christine de Pisan's <i>The Book of the City of Ladies</i>	47
Christine de Pisan, 49	
<i>The Book of the City of Ladies</i> , 51	
The Situation of Women, 55	
Women and Moral Agency, 57	
The Question of Marriage, 58	
The Prudent Woman, 62	
The Problem, 66	
The Allegorical City, 68	
The Need for Allegory, 71	

Problems with the City, 75	
Conclusion, 76	
4 Mary Wollstonecraft and the Separation of Poetry and Politics	81
Wollstonecraft's <i>Corpus</i> , 84	
The Second <i>Vindication</i> as an Enlightenment Treatise, 89	
The Second <i>Vindication</i> Is Not a Work of Enlightenment Philosophy, 92	
Principles of Form and Expression, 95	
Form and Sensibility, 101	
True Sensibility, 104	
The Philosophical Role of Sensibility, 111	
Conclusion, 119	
5 George Eliot and How to Read Novels as Philosophy,	123
Eliot's Work, 124	
Comte, Spinoza, and Eliot, 126	
How to Read Eliot, 131	
The Centrality of Sympathy in Eliot's Novels, 135	
Philosophy, 144	
Conclusion, 145	
6 Knowing and Speaking of Divine Love: Mechthild of Magdeburg	149
Biography, 152	
Women and Writing, 155	
The Problem of Authority, 156	
The Authorship of God, 159	
Morality and Experience, 162	
The Forms in the Flowing Light, 166	
Conclusion: Contingencies, 171	
7 Conclusion	175
Philosophical Genre and the Boundaries of Philosophy, 175	
A Few Comments on Content, 180	
<i>References</i>	187
<i>Index</i>	193