## Contents

	List of figures	1X			
	Acknowledgments	х			
	List of Abbreviations	xi			
Intr	Introduction				
-	RT I	7			
Th	e Nineteenth-Century Origins	/			
1	The Art of Agential Living	9			
2	Portraits of Whom?	19			
D۸	RT II				
Literature, Cultural Critique, and Political Liberation					
3	Biofiction as Social Critique	35			
4	The Irish, the Unslave Trade, and the Decolonization of the Mind	46			
5	The 1930s and the First Surge in Biofiction	60			
PA	RT III				
Lit	Literary Debates				
6	The Assault on Biofiction	79			
7	The William Styron Controversy	87			
8	Postmodernism's Historiographic Metafiction or Biofiction's "Truth" Proposals	98			

## viii Contents

9	John Edgar Wie	leman on the	e Ethics	of Fictionalizing a	Life in	
	Biofiction					111

## PART IV The Uncanny Power of Biofiction 127 10 Biofiction as Cultural Intervention: The Case of Sally Hemings 129 The 1990s: The Decade of Biofiction's Official Legitimization 11 and Dominance 139 12 The Transformative Power of Biofiction for Students: A Case Study of David Ebershoff's The Danish Girl 146 Bibliography 174 Index 180