## Contents

| 1 | Introduction: The Elusive Game<br>Sir Philip Marlowe<br>References | 1<br>4<br>7 |
|---|--|-------------|
| 2 | A Sense of the Past: A Brisk Overview of Chivalry and              |             |
|   | Romance  | 11          |
|   | The Medieval Imaginary 1: Actually Existing Chivalry               | 13          |
|   | The Medieval Imaginary 2: Actually Existing Romance                | 18          |
|   | The Imaginary Middle Ages  | 21          |
|   | References   | 32          |
| 3 | The Long Goodbye: World War I, Romantic Nostalgia,                 |             |
|   | and Chivalry's Endless Death                                       | 41          |
|   | Anything but Romantic  | 42          |
|   | The Dream Continues  | 45          |
|   | Isn't It Pretty to Think So?                                       | 49          |
|   | References   | 52          |
| 4 | Games with Knights: Philip Marlowe, Hardboiled                     |             |
|   | Masculinity, and the Ungentle Negation of Romance                  | 57          |
|   | The Big Morte  | 60          |
|   | The Ill-Made Knight I: Sex and Violence                            | 61          |

|       | The Ill-Made Knight 2: Class and Race         | 72 |
|-------|---|----|
|       | Love and Dialectics                           | 77 |
|       | References                                    | 82 |
| 5     | Conclusion: The Mean Streets of the Dialectic | 89 |
|       | References                                    | 95 |
|       |   |    |
| Index |   | 97 |