

## Table of Contents

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Preface  | 7   |
| X Chapter 1: The diversity of responses to Walser's early novels               | 9   |
| 1.1 Acquiring a negative identity: the irony of accommodation                  | 9   |
| 1.2. The changing form of Walser's novels in the mid-1970s                     | 17  |
| 1.3 Aesthetic and political norms in the reception of literature               | 20  |
| 1.4 Towards a literary-political typology of critics                           | 30  |
| Chapter 2: <i>Ehen in Philippsburg</i> (1957)                                  | 43  |
| Chapter 3: <i>Halbzeit</i> (1960)  | 57  |
| Chapter 4: <i>Das Einhorn</i> (1966)   | 77  |
| Chapter 5: Crisis and Experiment (1970-1973)                                   | 91  |
| 5.1 <i>Fiction</i> (1970)  | 91  |
| 5.2 <i>Die Gallist'sche Krankheit</i> (1972)                                   | 97  |
| 5.3 <i>Der Sturz</i> (1973)  | 103 |
| Chapter 6: <i>Jenseits der Liebe</i> (1976)                                    | 113 |
| 6.1 The reception of <i>Jenseits der Liebe</i>                                 | 113 |
| 6.2 An interpretation of <i>Jenseits der Liebe</i> : the pain of accommodation | 123 |
| 6.2.1 <i>Jenseits der Liebe</i> : the presented world                          | 130 |
| 6.2.2 <i>Jenseits der Liebe</i> : the presentation                             | 135 |
| 6.2.3 <i>Jenseits der Liebe</i> : work ideology                                | 142 |
| X Chapter 7: <i>Ein fliehendes Pferd</i> (1978)                                | 153 |
| Chapter 8: Evaluating the reception survey                                     | 167 |
| 8.1 Literary norms and genre expectations                                      | 167 |
| 8.2 Norms for the presented world  | 175 |
| X 8.3 Norms concerning work ideology   | 185 |
| Chapter 9: Conclusions   | 205 |
| 9.1 Types of literary critical opinions  | 205 |
| 9.2 Conflicting horizons of expectations and literary evolution                | 208 |
| 9.3 The political psychology of the salaried employee                          | 212 |
| Bibliography   | 219 |