

Contents

Acknowledgements	ix
Abbreviations	xi
Foreword	xiii
Chapter 1 The tradition of the self-reflexive text.	1
<i>Daphnis and Chloe</i> : 'a complete world'	11
Laurence Sterne: 'in everything a guide and inspiration'	18
Jean Paul: 'a very gifted spirit'	37
A reception history of the <i>Wanderjahre</i>	50
Chapter 2 Reader, writer and text in Goethe's work	69
Metafictional elements in the earlier novels	89
<i>Die Leiden des jungen Werther</i>	92
<i>Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre</i>	97
<i>Die Wahlverwandtschaften</i>	110
Chapter 3 Reader and writer in the <i>Wanderjahre</i>	123
The text-internal narrator	132
Wilhelm: 'as representative of all'	145
Lenardo: 'really no story'	156
Makarie: 'a blessed spirit'	161
Excursus: <i>Die neue Melusine</i> , a paradigm of mis-reading	181
Chapter 4 'A very intricate work of art'	191
The <i>Wanderjahre</i> as a paradigm of 'world literature'	191
The interaction of text and image	200
Weaving the labyrinth of the text	222
Excursus: <i>Wer ist der Verräter?</i>	254
Epilogue The aesthetic of the open work	259
Bibliography	271
Index	281