

Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	ix
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xi
Introduction. Towards a Kleinian Dynamics of Reading	1
Kleinian Theory	3
Problems	10
Object-Relations Criticism	13
Klein on Literature	25
Chapter 1. A Kleinian Journey to Hell and Heaven	41
The Poetics of Frustration and Gratification in Dante's <i>Divina Commedia</i>	45
The Poetics of Hell	45
The Fragmentation of Hell	48
Fear of Persecutors	52
Nature Distorted	53
Sadism without Guilt	54
Frustration: The State of Hopeless Desire	64
The Poetics of Paradise	65
The Gratified Infant	66
Imagery of Nature: Birds	70
Internal Peace	74
Figuring Paradise: Natural Harmony	75
Poetic Music	76
The Narcissistic Rose	80

	Separation and Ambivalence in Dante's <i>Divina Commedia</i>	83
Chapter 2.	Ponge and the Possession of the Object	100
Chapter 3.	Writing Paranoia: A Kleinian Reading of Rilke's <i>Die Aufzeichnungen des Malte Laurids Brigge</i>	124
	The Return of the Persecutors	129
	The Alien	137
	Paranoid Phantasies: The Absence of Trust	146
	Fragmentation	150
	Conclusion	160
Chapter 4.	'Dans le silence les mots explosent': The Dynamics of Textual Sadism	171
	Fluidity of Subjectivity	173
	Demand and Appeasement	174
	'Dans le silence les mots explosent': The Dynamics of Textual Sadism	179
	The Self-Reflexive Text	179
	'Pure oeuvre d'art'	182
	Textual Sadism	184
	Where Is Reparation?	200
Chapter 5.	Conclusion	207
	What Does This Mean for Literary Studies?	211
	Works Consulted	217