Contents

Editor's Note vii

Introduction 1
Harold Bloom

Name, Race, and Gift in Common 3
Langston Hughes

The Role of Violence in Recent Poems of Gwendolyn Brooks 7
William H. Hansell

Gwendolyn Brooks's Way with the Sonnet 21
Gladys Margaret Williams

Rage and Silence in Gwendolyn Brooks' Maud Martha 43
Mary Helen Washington

Gwendolyn Brooks's A Street in Bronzeville, The Harlem Renaissance and
the Mythologies of Black Women 57
Gary Smith

Dual Vision in Gwendolyn Brooks’s Maud Martha 71
Patricia H. Lattin and Vernon E. Lattin

Later Works 79
D. H. Melhem

Anger So Flat: Gwendolyn Brooks’s Annie Allen 99
Claudia Tate

Maud Martha: The War with Beauty 111
Harry B. Shaw
“Chocolate Mabbie” and “Pearl May Lee”: Gwendolyn Brooks and the Ballad Tradition 127
   Maria K. Mootry

   Gertrude Reif Hughes

Gwendolyn Brooks: An Essential Sanity 161
   Henry Taylor

Dialectics of Desire: War and the Resistive Voice in Gwendolyn Brooks's “Negro Hero” and “Gay Chaps at the Bar” 181
   Ann Folwell Stanford

Chronology 199

Contributors 203

Bibliography 205

Acknowledgments 208

Index 211