Contents

Preface xii

Acknowledgments xvi

1 Finding a Female Tradition
Introduction 1

Extracts from:
A Room of One's Own VIRGINIA WOOLF 9
A Literature of Their Own: British Women Novelists from Brontë to Lessing ELAINE SHOWALTER 11
‘Compulsory Heterosexuality and Lesbian Existence’ ADRIENNE RICH 15

Feminist Practice and Poststructuralist Theory CHRIS WEEDON 19
‘The Rise of Black Feminist Literary Studies’ ANN DUCILLE 21
‘Race and Gender in the Shaping of the American Literary Canon: A Case Study from the Twenties’ PAUL LAUTER 26
‘Telling Feminist Stories’ CLARE HEMMINGS 33

Doing Time: Feminist Theory and Postmodernist Culture RITA FELSKI 37
‘Happy Families? Feminist Reproduction and Matrilineal Thought’ LINDA R. WILLIAMS 41

Literary Relations: Kinship and the Canon JANE SPENCER 45
‘Parables and Politics: Feminist Criticism in 1986’ NANCY K. MILLER 47
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'What Women’s Eyes See'</td>
<td>VIVIANE FORRESTER</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Women and Madness: The Critical Phallacy'</td>
<td>SHOSHANA FELMAN</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Women’s Literary History</td>
<td>MARGARET J. M. EZELL</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Professionalization of Women Writers in Eighteenth-Century Britain</td>
<td>BETTY A. SCHELLENBERG</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Women and Literary Production</td>
<td></td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracts from:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Room of One’s Own</td>
<td>VIRGINIA WOOLF</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Professions for Women'</td>
<td>VIRGINIA WOOLF</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silences</td>
<td>TILLIE OLSEN</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination</td>
<td>SANDRA M. GILBERT AND SUSAN GUBAR</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Writing Like a Woman: A Question of Politics'</td>
<td>TERRY LOVELL</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Rise of the Woman Novelist: From Aphra Behn to Jane Austen</td>
<td>JANE SPENCER</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Emily Brontë in the Hands of Male Critics'</td>
<td>CAROL OHMANN</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Toward a Black Feminist Criticism'</td>
<td>BARBARA SMITH</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Christina Rossetti: Diary of a Feminist Reading'</td>
<td>ISOBEL ARMSTRONG</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Conversations'</td>
<td>HÉLÈNE CIXOUS ET AL.</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Mapping Contemporary Women’s Fiction after Bourdieu'</td>
<td>MARY EAGLETON</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Literature: The Making of Contemporary Writing in Britain</td>
<td>CLAIRE SQUIRES</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Postcolonial Exotic: Marketing the Margins</td>
<td>GRAHAM HUGGAN</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Black Woman Talk'</td>
<td>BLACK WOMAN TALK COLLECTIVE</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Introduction', Let It be Told: Essays by Black Women in Britain</td>
<td>LAURETTA NGCOBO</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Media: Feminist Presses and Publishing Politics</td>
<td>SIMONE MURRAY</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 Gender and Genre
Introduction

A Room of One's Own  VIRGINIA WOOLF 143

Literary Women  ELLEN MOERS 145

‘Femininity, Narrative and Psychoanalysis’
JULIET MITCHELL 147

Desire and Domestic Fiction: A Political History
of the Novel  NANCY ARMSTRONG 151

‘Towards a Feminist Narratology’  SUSAN S. LANSER 154

Heterosexual Plots and Lesbian Narratives
MARIYN R. FARWELL 158

Having a Good Cry: Effeminate Feelings and Pop-Culture
Forms  ROBYN R. WARHOL 161

‘Introduction’, Aurora Leigh and Other Poems
CORA KAPLAN 163

‘Small Island People: Black British Women Playwrights’
MEENAKSHI PONNUSWAMI 166

‘Varieties of Women’s Writing’  CLARE BRANT 167

Fantasy: The Literature of Subversion  ROSEMARY JACKSON 172

Female Desire: Women’s Sexuality Today  ROSALIND COWARD 173

Forever England: Femininity, Literature and Conservatism
Between the Wars  ALISON LIGHT 177

The Feminine Middlebrow Novel, 1920s to 1950s: Class,
Domesticity, and Bohemianism  NICOLA HUMBLE 182

‘Afterword: The New Woman’s Fiction’  SHARI BENSTOCK 186

Myth and Fairy Tale in Contemporary Women’s Fiction
SUSAN SELLERS 187

4 Towards Definitions of Feminist Writing
Introduction

“This Novel Changes Lives”: Are Women’s Novels Feminist
Novels? A Response to Rebecca O’Rourke’s Article
“Summer Reading”  ROSALIND COWARD 199

‘Feminism and the Definition of Cultural Politics’
MICHELE BARRETT 203
Contents

'What is Lesbian Literature? Forming a Historical Canon'
LILLIAN FADERMAN 207

'American Feminist Literary Criticism: A Bibliographical Introduction'
CHERI REGISTER 210

'Introduction', Feminism Meets Queer Theory
ELIZABETH WEED 216

'Dancing through the Minefield: Some Observations on the Theory, Practice, and Politics of a Feminist Literary Criticism'
ANNETTE KOLODNY 219

'Towards a Feminist Poetics'
ELAINE SHOWALTER 222

Sexual/Textual Politics: Feminist Literary Theory
TORIL MOI 225

Gynesis: Configurations of Woman and Modernity
ALICE A. JARDINE 228

'Flight Reservations: The Anglo-American/French Divide in Feminist Criticism'
RACHEL BOWLBY 230

'Social Criticism Without Philosophy: An Encounter Between Feminism and Postmodernism'
NANCY FRASER AND LINDA J. NICHOLSON 234

'Mapping the Lesbian Postmodern'
ROBYN WIEGMAN 235

Yearning: Race, Gender, and Cultural Politics
BELLE HOOKS 238

Signs and Cities: Black Literary Postmodernism
MADHU DUBEY 241

Mappings: Feminism and the Cultural Geographies of Encounter
SUSAN STANFORD FRIEDMAN 244

The Radical Aesthetic
ISOBEL ARMSTRONG 248

What is a Woman? And Other Essays
TORIL MOI 251

Undoing Gender
JUDITH BUTLER 254

'The Race for Theory'
BARBARA CHRISTIAN 257

'Woman Can Never Be Defined'
JULIA KRISTEVA 261

'Discursive Desire: Catherine Belsey's Feminism'
MARYSA DEMOOR AND JÜRGEN PIETERS 262

5 Writing, Reading and Difference

Introduction

Literary Women
ELLEN MOERS 275

Thinking about Women
MARY ELLMANN 277

'Writing Like a Woman'
PEGGY KAMUF 280
Reading Woman: Essays in Feminist Criticism
MARY JACOBUS 282
'Talking about Polylogue' JULIA KRISTEVA 284
Subject to Change: Reading Feminist Writing
NANCY K. MILLER 286
The Resisting Reader JUDITH FETTERLEY 288
'Reading as a Woman' JONATHAN CULLER 291
'Reading Like a Man' ROBERT SCHOLES 294
'How to Read a “Culturally Different” Book'
GAYATRI CHAKRAVORTY SPIVAK 296
The Woman Reader, 1837–1914 KATE FLINT 300
Provincial Readers in Eighteenth-Century England
JAN FERGUS 303
Reading Groups JENNY HARTLEY 306
'The Powers of Discourse and the Subordination
of the Feminine' LUCE IRIGARAY 308
'The Laugh of the Medusa' HÉLÈNE CIXOUS 311
'Castration or Decapitation?' HÉLÈNE CIXOUS 314
'Language and Revolution: The Franco–American
Dis-connection' DOMNA C. STANTON 316
'Made in America: “French Feminism” in Academia'
CLAIRE GOLDBERG MOSES 318
Hélène Cixous Rootprints: Memory and Life Writing
HÉLÈNE CIXOUS AND MIREILLE CALLE-GRUBER 321

6 Locating the Subject
Introduction 325
'A Question of Subjectivity: An Interview'
JULIA KRISTEVA 333
'Femininity and Its Discontents' JACQUELINE ROSE 335
Critical Practice CATHERINE BELSEY 340
What Does a Woman Want? Reading and Sexual Difference
SHOSHANA FELMAN 343
A Feeling for Books: The Book-of-the-Month Club,
Literary Taste, and Middle-Class Desire
JANICE A. RADWAY 347
'Sexual Difference and Collective Identities: The New Global
Constellation' SEYLA BENHABIB 349
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'Cultural Feminism versus Post-Structuralism: The Identity Crisis in Feminist Theory'</td>
<td>LINDA ALCOFF</td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Upping the Anti (Sic) in Feminist Theory'</td>
<td>TERESA DE LAURETIS</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essentially Speaking: Feminism, Nature and Difference</td>
<td>DIANA FUSS</td>
<td>358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'A Manifesto for Cyborgs: Science, Technology, and Socialist Feminism in the 1980s'</td>
<td>DONNA HARAWAY</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza</td>
<td>GLORIA ANZALDUÁ</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Women, Writing and Identity: Migrations of the Subject</td>
<td>CAROLE BOYCE DAVIES</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'The Straight Mind’</td>
<td>MONIQUE WITTIG</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epistemology of the Closet</td>
<td>EVE KOOSOFSKY SEDGWICK</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Of OncoMice and FemaleMen: Donna Haraway on Cyborg Ontology’</td>
<td>KATE SOPER</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Writing 'Glocal’</td>
<td></td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>En-gendering India: Woman and Nation in Colonial and Postcolonial Narratives</td>
<td>SANGEETA RAY</td>
<td>389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cartographies of Diaspora: Contesting Identities</td>
<td>AVTAR BRAH</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rethinking Orientalism: Women, Travel and the Ottoman Harem</td>
<td>REINA LEWIS</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'French Feminism in an International Frame’</td>
<td>GAYATRI CHAKRAVORTY SPIVAK</td>
<td>396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses’</td>
<td>CHANDRA TALPADE MOHANTY</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woman, Native, Other: Writing Postcoloniality and Feminism</td>
<td>TRINH T. MINH-HA</td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Woman Skin Deep: Feminism and the Postcolonial Condition’</td>
<td>SARA SULERI</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Diaspora: Tactics of Intervention in Contemporary Cultural Studies</td>
<td>REY CHOW</td>
<td>407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imperial Eyes: Travel Writing and Transculturation</td>
<td>MARY LOUISE PRATT</td>
<td>411</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Victorian Travel Writing and Imperial Violence: 
British Writing on Africa 1855–1902 LAURA E. FRANEY 415

‘Introduction’, Going Global: The Transnational 
Reception of Third World Women Writers 
AMAL AMIREH AND LISA SUHAIR MAJAJ 417

Postcolonial Studies: A Materialist Critique BENITA PARRY 420

ADRIENNE RICH 423

Questions of Travel: Postmodern Discourses 
of Displacement CAREN KAPLAN 425

Imperial Leather: Race, Gender, and Sexuality 
in the Colonial Context ANNE MCCLINTOCK 428

Transnational Women’s Fiction: Unsettling Home 
and Homeland SUSAN STREHLE 432

Stories of Women: Gender and Narrative 
in the Postcolonial Nation ELLEKE BOEHMER 434

Nomadic Subjects: Embodiment and Sexual Difference 
in Contemporary Feminist Theory ROSI BRAIDOTTI 437

Bibliography of Extracts 439

Index 447