

## Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	page viii
<b>Introduction</b>	1
<b>Chapter 1 The State and the Novel</b>	13
The Post-War Wilderness	14
The Testing of Liberal Humanism	19
The Sixties and Social Revolution	24
The Post-Consensus Novel	29
Intimations of Social Collapse	38
After Thatcher	43
<b>Chapter 2 Class and Social Change</b>	49
‘The Movement’	50
Anger and Working-Class Fiction	52
Education and Class Loyalty	57
The Formal Challenge of Class	63
The Waning of Class-Consciousness	69
The Rise of the Underclass	72
The Realignment of the Middle Class	75
The Role of the Intellectual	80
<b>Chapter 3 Gender and Sexual Identity</b>	83
Out of the Bird-Cage	83
Second-Wave Feminism	94
Post-Feminism	105
Repression in Gay Fiction	113

<b>Chapter 4 National Identity</b>	118
Reinventing Englishness	119
The Colonial Legacy	124
The Troubles	131
Irishness Extended	141
Welsh Resistance	144
The 'Possible Dance' of Scottishness	147
Beyond the Isles?	154
<b>Chapter 5 Multicultural Personae</b>	156
Jewish-British Writing	158
The Empire Within	161
'Windrush' and After: Dislocation Confronted	164
The Quest for a Settlement	170
Ethnic Identity and Literary Form	172
Putting Down Roots	175
Rushdie's Broken Mirror	179
Towards Post-Nationalism	182
<b>Chapter 6 Country and Suburbia</b>	188
The Death of the Nature Novel	189
The Re-evaluation of Pastoral	190
The Post-Pastoral Novel	194
The Country in the City	208
Trouble in Suburbia	213
Embracing the Suburban Experience	219
<b>Chapter 7 Beyond 2000</b>	224
Realism and Experimentalism	224
Technology and the New Science	233
Towards the New Confessional	240
The Fallacy of the New	245
A Broken Truth: Murdoch and Morality	251
<i>Notes</i>	260
<i>Bibliography</i>	283
<i>Index</i>	299