

Contents

Acknowledgements	9
1 Introduction	11
2 New Histories – Old Metaphor	29
2.1 New Histories: Postmodernism, Literature, and the Study of History	29
2.2 Old Metaphor: The Maritime Metaphor in Literature	46
3 Wavering Biographies: Remembering Individual Histories	63
3.1 The Odd Discipline of Autobiography: Iris Murdoch's <i>The Sea, the Sea</i> (1978)	69
3.2 Life Course as a Ship's Course: Candia McWilliam's <i>Debatable Land</i> (1994)	87
3.3 Small Men at Big History: Graham Swift's <i>Last Orders</i> (1996) and Ian McEwan's <i>On Chesil Beach</i> (2007)	103
3.4 Sealing through Biographies	121
4 Salvaging the Self: Narratives of Personal Trauma	131
4.1 In Search of a Life Line: Yann Martel's <i>Life of Pi</i> (2002)	138
4.2 Plotting a Course in the Sea of Memory: John Banville's <i>The Sea</i> (2005)	155
4.3 Sealing through Trauma	167
5 Influential Sources: Discourses of Origin and the Politics of Power	173
5.1 Historiographic Darwinism and Ark-ology: Julian Barnes's <i>A History of the World in 10 1/2 Chapters</i> (1989)	180
5.2 His and Her Stories: Jeanette Winterson's <i>Lighthousekeeping</i> (2004) and Doris Lessing's <i>The Cleft</i> (2007)	200
5.3 History in the Making: Barry Unsworth's <i>Sacred Hunger</i> (1992)	219
5.4 Sealing through Origins	243
6 Reclaiming the Drowned: Post/Colonial Histories	249
6.1 Rewriting Insular Classics: J.M. Coetzee's <i>Foe</i> (1986) and Marina Warner's <i>Indigo or Mapping the Waters</i> (1992)	255
6.2 The Sea is Slavery: Fred D'Aguiar's <i>Feeding the Ghosts</i> (1997)	281
6.3 Colonialism in a Ship-Shell: Matthew Kneale's <i>English Passengers</i> (2000)	296
6.4 Sealing through Post/Colonialism	317
7 Conclusion	323
List of Abbreviations	335
Works Cited	337
Index	359