

# Contents

Acknowledgments .....	7
Introduction .....	9
Selection of Texts .....	11
The Women's Movement and Literature by Women .....	13
Texts in Context: The Feminine Mystique and Female Sexuality .....	16
Chapter Outline .....	23
Chapter One: Representing Gender .....	25
Reading Representation .....	25
Feminism and Cultural Studies .....	31
Representing Masculinity .....	35
Cultural Ideals of Masculinity .....	39
Chapter Two: Husbands .....	43
The Ideal Husband .....	44
Marital Sex .....	47
Silence and Enclosure .....	51
Models for Desire and Desirability .....	53
Chapter Three: Lovers .....	63
The Male Variation Theme .....	66
The Phallic Lover I: The Businessman .....	70
The Phallic Lover II: Cowboys, Bikers, and Delinquents .....	73
The Non-Phallic Lover .....	77
Cultural Ideals Reassessed .....	83
Chapter Four: Dreamlovers .....	92
Uses of Erotic Fantasies: Enter the Dreamlover .....	96
<i>Fear of Flying</i> : The Zipless Fuck .....	104
<i>Up the Sandbox!</i> : Erotic Fantasies of Masculinity as Power .....	107
The Faceless Dreamlover .....	110
Fantastic Endings? .....	115

Conclusion .....	122
Works Consulted .....	133
Index .....	140

# Index

- adultery 65, 67, 83, 117
- Agger, Ben 25, 26–27, 30, 32n
- Alther, Lisa *see* *Kinflicks*
- ambiguity 41, 61, 89, 106, 122–25, 130
- Atwood, Margaret 9–10, 129
- Balsamo, Anne 32, 33
- Bender 109, 110
- Bhabha, Homi 86
- Blue Skies, No Candy* 12, 17, 67, 70, 73, 75–77, 84, 89, 93–94, 99–104, 106, 117, 120
- Braidotti, Rosi 108
- Brod, Harry 11n, 40
- Charney, Maurice 103n, 110
- Clark, Danae 36–37
- Comfort, Alex 21, 66
- Culler, Jonathan 27–28
- cultural ideals of masculinity 66, 85, 88, 89, 115, 120, 130–32 *see also* masculinity
  - and ambiguity 41, 89, 130
  - breadwinner/provider, ideal of 40–41, 47, 65, 70, 82, 129
  - businessman, ideal of 40, 41, 66, 72
  - cowboy, ideal of 40, 66, 73, 74–75, 82
  - Marlboro Man, as ideal image 40, 74, 75
  - rebel, ideal of 41, 65, 66, 68, 73, 76, 77, 82, 84
- cultural studies 31–35
- daydreams *see* erotic fantasies
- desire, female 12, 57–58, 123–132
  - and ambiguity 106, 122–25, 130
  - cultural mediation of 31, 42, 54–59, 61
- Doane, Mary Anne 94–95n, 119
- dreamlover 24, 41, 90–91, 92–121, 125–26
  - def. of term 92
  - as alternative masculinity 97, 111
  - and anonymity 104, 112, 119 *see also* faceless
  - black 97–99, 113
  - and cultural models 100, 115, 120
  - faceless 100, 104, 110–115, 119, 125–26
  - and lover 90–91, 101
- Drexler, Rosalyn *see* *One or Another*
- Easthope, Antony 40
- Ehrenreich, Barbara 19–20, 21, 23, 47, 127–28
- erotic fantasies 90, 93–95, 96, 110
  - in nonfictional texts 22–23
  - and agency 92–93, 95, 98, 100
  - and anonymity 110–11, 112 *see also* dreamlover
  - and autoeroticism/narcissism 112, 113, 119, 120
  - and popular culture 96, 99
  - and psychoanalytic theory 93, 113, 118
  - rape 101–103
  - and reality 100–101, 116, 117, 119
  - and role-play 100–102
  - and taboo 97–103, 107n
  - uses of 96–104

- Faludi, Susan 60–61  
*Fear of Flying* 12, 17, 44–55, 58, 60, 62, 67–68, 77–80, 84, 89, 91, 93–95, 99–101, 103–106, 110–11, 116, 118, 120, 122, 125, 132
- Felski, Rita 15
- female sexuality  
 historical context 16–23  
 in nonfictional texts 20–22  
*The Feminine Mystique* 16, 18–19, 61n, 64, 125
- feminist novels *see also* women's novels  
 and “postfeminist” novels 14–15  
 and women's novels 15–16, 132
- feminist literary criticism 13–16, 28–39  
 and cultural studies 31–35  
 and poststructuralism 30
- Fox-Genovese, Elizabeth 14, 59, 126
- French, Marilyn *see The Women's Room*
- Freud, Sigmund/Freudian psychology 20, 23, 93, 94, 106, 113, 118
- Friday, Nancy 16, 22, 103n
- Friedan, Betty *see The Feminine Mystique*
- Gaines, Jane 12n
- gaze, female 114
- gender  
 and representation 30–31, 33–35  
 roles, critique of 18, 19, 41, 61, 109, 120–21
- gender studies 10–11, 32 *see also* masculinity, masculinity studies
- Girard, René 57–59
- Glass People* 12, 46–47, 50–53, 56–58, 60, 62, 67, 70–72, 90–91, 93, 95, 101n, 103, 111–12, 117, 119–20, 122, 125
- Glicksberg, Charles 127
- Godwin, Gail *see Glass People*
- Greene, Gayle 14, 16n, 128
- Greene, Gael *see Blue Skies, No Candy*
- Haskell, Molly 22–23, 103
- hegemony 36–37, 87, 132
- heterosexuality  
 and feminism 12n  
 in women's novels 36
- Heilbrun, Carolyn 14, 43, 44, 60, 61, 62
- Higonnet, Margaret 29, 30
- Hite, Molly 34  
*The Hite Report* 16, 21, 82
- Hogeland, Lisa Maria 37
- How She Died* 12, 70, 81
- humor 131
- husband 24, 41, 43–62, 87n, 122–125  
 attraction of 44–47  
 dictionary definitions of 43, 59  
 and orgasm 49–50  
 as provider 51  
 return to 116–18  
 as sex object 47–48  
 and sexuality 47–51
- Hutcheon, Linda 131
- In the Flesh* 12, 48, 67, 73–75, 77, 83–84, 91, 101n, 125
- identity, quest for 23, 68, 83, 88, 89–90, 122, 125
- illicit lover *see* lover
- “independence,” protagonist's 122–123
- irony 15, 84, 106, 115, 119, 130–31
- Jong, Erica 124 *see also Fear of Flying*
- Kaplan, Cora 13
- Kaplan, E. Ann 114
- Kent, Sarah 38–39
- Kin flicks* 12, 17, 44, 45–46, 48, 49, 55–56, 58, 60, 62, 67–69, 73, 76, 79–80, 83–84, 101n, 122, 125
- Kinsey, Alfred 16, 20, 127
- Klein, Marcus 40, 41, 89
- Kuhn, Annette 28, 31
- Lauret, Maria 14, 127, 128n
- Lee, Alison 25
- Levine, Judith 86
- Lewallen, Avis 114
- Long Division* 12, 62, 123

- Looking for Mr Goodbar* 12, 67, 70, 73–77, 80–81, 83–84, 101n
- lover 24, 63–91, 122
- and anonymity 71–72
  - businessman 70–73
  - cowboy 73
  - as deficient 83, 91, 115, 124
  - hippie 77–80, 84–85
  - and impotence 79–80, 85
  - macho man 72–77, 85
  - and marriage 70, 72
  - non-phallic 66, 77–83
  - as opposite of husband 63–65, 71, 78, 124
  - as outlaw 64, 65, 85
  - phallic 66, 70–77
  - as rebel/rebellion 65, 76, 82, 90
  - as stereotype, *see* masculinity
  - as sex object 76, 87
- Lurie, Alison *see* *The War Between the Tates*
- “male variation” theme 19, 23, 66–70, 88–89, 90, 97, 129
- marriage 18–19, 23–24, 61–62, 64, 67, 68, 82–83 *see also* husband, lover
- masculinity
- def. of term 10, 12
  - and ambiguity 130
  - critical interest in 10, 11n, 35–41
  - and cultural ideals 12, 24, 39–42, 68, 73, 85, 89, 100, 110, 115, 130–32
  - destabilization of 34, 83–84, 91, 113, 115, 124, 130
  - from “different point of view” 34, 38, 129
  - feminist investigations of 35, 36
  - as “pure body” 73, 76, 77, 84, 87
  - real models of 75
  - and representation 10–11, 24, 28–29, 35–39, 129
  - and sensitivity 80–82
  - stereotype of 72, 74, 76, 85 *see also* stereotype
- masculinity studies, men’s studies 11n, 35, 36
- Masters and Johnson 16, 20, 21
- men’s movement 36
- Miller, Jane 38n
- Millett, Kate, *Sexual Politics* 16, 32n
- Mitchell, W. J. T. 26
- Morreau, Jacqueline 38–39
- novels of exposure 89, 130, 132
- Once Is Not Enough* 12, 70
- One or Another* 12, 52, 62, 93, 96–99, 104, 111, 113, 118, 125
- orgasm, female, in nonfictional texts 20–21 *see also* husband
- parody 107, 108, 115, 119, 130
- patriarchy, critique of
- in nonfictional texts 10–11, 17–20
  - in women’s novels 43–44, 53–62, 64–66, 83–91, 113–15, 120–21, 124, 126–32
- Perkins, T. E. 85
- Phelps, Linda 22
- pornography 126–127
- and erotic fantasies 102–103, 114, 123
  - and rape 101–103
  - and representation 32–33
- representation 25–42, 114, 115, 120
- “crisis of” 26–27
  - and dominant culture 29–31
  - and feminism 26, 28–39
  - and gender 25, 28–42
  - of masculinity 35–39
  - and misandry 37, 86, 87
  - and misogyny 17, 37, 87, 88
  - and poststructuralism 26, 30, 33
  - and realism 25–26, 28
  - and “truth” 29, 37–38
  - and women’s movement 28
- Reuben, David 20
- Riemer, James 35–36, 40–41
- Robinson, Sally 15, 29–30
- Roiphe, Anne Richardson *see* *Long Division, Up the Sandbox!*
- Rosenfelt, Deborah Silverton 14–15



Rossner, Judith *see Looking for Mr Goodbar*

Rubin, Gayle 64

Saco, Diana 12n

Schor, Naomi 9, 10, 36, 38n, 87–88

Schweickart, Patriocinio 17n

sex object, male *see* husband, lover

Shiach, Morag 33n

Stacey, Jackie 31, 32–33

stereotype 66, 85–89, 107–8, 119,

128, 130 *see also* masculinity

subject/object dualism

inversion in women's novels 33–

34, 58

subversion (of patriarchal order)

and representations of masculinity

85, 87, 126

and lover relationship 82, 90, 124

and women's novels 126–132

Susann, Jacqueline *see Once Is Not Enough*

Tanner, Tony 63, 64–65

Thurston, Carol 23, 94, 101n, 110n,  
120–21n

Tompkins, Jane 75

Torgovnick, Marianna 36n

*Up the Sandbox!* 12, 17, 62, 93, 95–99,  
104, 107–13, 117–19, 125, 130–  
31

Van de Velde, T. H. 20

Walker, Nancy 128n, 131

*The War Between the Tates* 12, 51, 78–

79, 80, 81, 83, 91, 125

Williams, Linda 102–103, 128

Wolitzer, Hilma *see In the Flesh*

*Women's Images of Men* 38–39, 114n

women's movement 10, 15, 132 *see*

*also* patriarchy, critique of

and female sexuality 17, 127–28

and erotic fantasies 23, 121

and sexual liberation 23

women's novels *see also* feminist

novels

def. of term 15

and ambiguity of gender repre-

sentation 41–42, 122–132

as “failed feminist novels” 16n

128n

and women's movement 10, 11,

13–16

*The Women's Room* 12, 47, 52, 58, 60,

61, 81, 125, 127

Woolf, Virginia 9, 10

Yglesias, Helen *see How She Died*

the zipless fuck 78, 99, 104–106, 112,  
116, 120