

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	5
THE AGE OF AMBIGUITY	7
<i>(The Old English Literature, The Anglo-Saxon Period)</i>	
Chronology	7
Social and Historical Context	9
Old English Epic	11
Written Anglo-Latin Literature	16
Secular Fiction	19
THE AGE OF ROMANCE	20
<i>(Middle English Literature [1066–1485])</i>	
Chronology	20
Historical and Social Context	22
Cultural and Literary Context	25
Chroniclers and Anglo-Latin Prose	27
Medieval and Chivalry Romances	29
Geoffrey Chaucer and Satirized Romance	37
Moralities in prose	41
AN INTERLUDE: VARIETIES OF RENAISSANCE WRITING	43
<i>(The Fiction of English Reformation, Revolution and Restoration)</i>	
Chronology	43
Social and Historical Context	47
The Cultural and Literary Context	53
The Prose of English Reformation	55
The Prose Fiction	58
The English Picaresque Novel	61
THE AGE OF NOVEL	65
Chronology	65
A Historical Survey	67
Social and Cultural Context	69
The Rise of Novel	71
Daniel Defoe – The Elements of Authenticity	74
Henry Fielding as Novelist	79
Samuel Richardson and Early ‘Sentimental Novel’	84
Jonathan Swift – Mystification in Fiction	88
Laurence Sterne – The Possibilities of Game	92
The Periodical Essay	94
The Prelude to Romantic Adventure – Tobias Smollett	95
BIBLIOGRAPHY	99