

HEARTS OF DARKNESS

Melville, Conrad and Narratives of Oppression

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edited by

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*To Friends, who strive to disperse
shadows present, foreshadowing
deeper shadows to come...*

CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	xi
PREFACE	xv
INTRODUCTION	19
PART ONE: Babo's Shadow. Tropes of Enslavement/Visions of Race	35
Chapter One	
Paula Kopacz	
Melville's Work: The Cultural Sweat of Slavery	37
Chapter Two	
William Merrill Decker	
"Who Aint a Slave?": <i>Moby-Dick</i> and the Slave Narrative Tradition	53
Chapter Three	
Yukiko Oshima	
The Amerindian Calumet Peace Pipe: Melville's Late Visions of Intersection of Race	79
PART TWO: Playing in the Dark. Otherness in Postcolonial Perspectives	93
Chapter Four	
Rodrigo Andrés	
The Threat of a Revolution on Board the <i>Bellipotent</i> : Darkness in <i>Billy Budd, Sailor</i>	95
Chapter Five	
Fabio De Leonardis	
The Representation of the Other in Conrad's <i>Heart of Darkness</i>	105
Chapter Six	
Yuji Kato	
In the Dark Narcissism of Se(a)cret Sh(e)aring/Sh(e)aring Se(a)cret: Conrad, Melville, and the Eruption of the Other	123
Chapter Seven	
Malika Rebai Maamri	
The Human Factor in Joseph Conrad's <i>Heart of Darkness</i>	137

PART THREE: Cold Empires. Imperial Politics and the Space of Literature	151
Chapter Eight	
T. Walter Herbert	
Melville Among the Cannibals and American Empire.....	153
Chapter Nine	
Arthur Redding	
Melville's Cold War: Re-Reading C. L. R. James's <i>Mariners, Renegades, and Castaways</i>	167
PART FOUR: Making Sense of Suffering. The Smoldering of Human Existence	183
Chapter Ten	
John T. Matteson	
"Unfathomable Cravings" and "Enchanted Heysts":	
The Ironic Rescuer in <i>Pierre</i> and <i>Victory</i>	185
Chapter Eleven	
Sanford E. Marovitz	
From Desertion Comes Solace—Perhaps:	
The Stories of Agatha, Hunilla, Amy Foster, and Winnie Verloc.....	203
Chapter Twelve	
Anna Marta Szczepan-Wojnarska	
The Tragedy of Trauma: Kurtz and Ahab.....	215
PART FIVE: Uncanny Stories. Conrad, Melville, and Strange Communion	225
Chapter Thirteen	
Laurence Davies	
Uncanny Conrad: Home, Exile, Memory, and Communion with the Dead.....	227
Chapter Fourteen	
John D. Schwetman	
Ships Passing: Encounters with Strangers in Melville's "Benito Cereno"	
and Conrad's "The Secret Sharer"	243
INDEX.....	257



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"What became clear in formal and informal discussion among the participants of that international gam was that Herman Melville and Joseph Conrad Korzeniowski shared the intuition that the essential liquidity of the existential human condition necessitates a 'universal squeeze of the hand.' This idea, beautifully conceptualized by Melville in chapter 94 of *Moby-Dick*, caused both writers to examine in their complex narratives the ways in which various kinds of oppression prevent this desired possibility."

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