

CONTENTS

Preface	IX
List of Illustrations	XIII
Principal Abbreviations	XV
Transcription Equivalents in the Notes	XVII
Glossary of Terms	XIX
INTRODUCTION	1
What Is the Book of Ruth?	3
The Artistry of the Story-Teller	10
The Hebrew Singer of Tales	18
The Date of Composition	23
The Theology	28
Canonical Status and Canonical Place	32
The Text	36
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY	42
TRANSLATION, NOTES, AND COMMENTS	47
I. A Family of Sojourners (1:1–5)	49
II. Returning Home (1:6–22)	60
III. Amid <i>Alien</i> Corn? (2:1–23)	85
IV. The Encounter at the Threshing Floor (3:1–18)	114
V. The Resolution at the City Gate (4:1–12)	139
VI. “A Son Is Born to Naomi!” (4:13–17)	162
VII. A Genealogical Appendix (4:18–22)	170
INDEX OF SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES	175
Key to the Text	189