

# CONTENTS

## I. PREFACE

- After Everything, *The Postmodern "Beowulf"* ..... XIII  
Eileen A. Joy

## II. INTRODUCTION

- Liquid *Beowulf* ..... XXIX  
Eileen A. Joy and Mary K. Ramsey

## III. HISTORY/HISTORICISM

### *Critical Contexts*

- The World, the Text, and the Critic. .... 1  
Edward Said
- In Transit: Theorizing Cultural Appropriation in Medieval Europe ..... 25  
Claire Sponsler

### *"Beowulf" Essays*

- Beowulf* and the Ancestral Homeland ..... 49  
Nicholas Howe
- Writing the Unreadable *Beowulf*. .... 91  
Allen J. Frantzen
- Locating *Beowulf* in Literary History ..... 131  
John D. Niles

IV. ETHNOGRAPHY/PSYCHOANALYSIS

*Critical Contexts*

Ethnicity, Power and the English ..... 163

John Moreland

Landscapes of Conversion: Guthlac's Mound and

Grendel's Mere as Expressions of Anglo-Saxon Nation-Building ..... 199

Alfred K. Siewers

*"Beowulf" Essays*

*Beowulf* and the Origins of Civilization ..... 259

James W. Earl

Enjoyment of Violence and Desire for History in *Beowulf* ..... 287

Janet Thormann

The Ethnopsychology of In-Law Feud and the Remaking of

Group Identity in *Beowulf*: The Cases of Hengest and Ingeld. .... 319

John M. Hill

V. GENDER/IDENTITY

*Critical Contexts*

The Ruins of Identity. .... 345

Jeffrey J. Cohen

Regardless of Sex: Men, Women,

and Power in Early Northern Europe. .... 383

Carol J. Clover

*"Beowulf" Essays*

Men and *Beowulf*. .... 417

Clare A. Lees

*Beowulf's* Tears of Fatherhood. .... 439

Mary Dockray-Miller

Voices from the Margins: Women and

Textual Enclosure in *Beowulf* ..... 467

Shari Horner

## VI. TEXT/TEXTUALITY

***Critical Contexts***

What is an Author? ..... 501

Michel Foucault

The Textuality of Old English Poetry ..... 519

Carol Braun Pasternack

***"Beowulf" Essays***

Swords and Signs: Dynamic Semeiosis in *Beowulf*. .... 547

Gillian Overing

Hrothgar's Hilt and the Reader in *Beowulf*. .... 587

Seth Lerer

"As I Once Did With Grendel": Boasting and  
Nostalgia in *Beowulf* ..... 629

Susan Kim

VII. POSTSCRIPT: PHILOLOGY AND  
POSTCOLONIALISM

Post-Philology ..... 655

Michelle R. Warren

## VIII. AFTERWORD

Reading *Beowulf* with Original Eyes ..... 687

James W. Earl