

# CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	x
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiv
<i>List of transcription conventions</i>	xv
INTRODUCTION	1
<i>Tales of thin women</i>	1
<i>A rough guide to anorexia nervosa</i>	3
<i>Culture and gender in anorexia nervosa</i>	5
<i>Towards a reformulation of 'anorexia'</i>	6
 <b>Part I Towards a feminist post-structuralist perspective</b>	
1 THEORIZING WOMEN: DISCOURSING GENDER, SUBJECTIVITY AND EMBODIMENT	11
<i>Psychoanalytic theory</i>	12
<i>From the Symbolic towards discourse</i>	25
<i>Discourse, power/knowledge, subjectivity and gender</i>	26
<i>Conclusions</i>	32
2 DISCOURSE, FEMINISM, RESEARCH AND THE PRODUCTION OF TRUTH	34
<i>Critiques of positivism</i>	35
<i>Post-structuralist theory and research</i>	38
<i>Discourse analysis and post-structuralism</i>	39
<i>A feminist post-structuralist approach to discourse analysis</i>	43
 <b>Part II Instituting the thin woman: the discursive productions of 'anorexia nervosa'</b>	
3 A GENEALOGY OF 'ANOREXIA NERVOSA'	47
<i>Pre-medical cases of female self-starvation</i>	50
<i>Self-starvation in early medical discourse</i>	51
<i>The surfaces of emergence of anorexia nervosa</i>	55

## CONTENTS

<i>A convergence of the medical discourses on hysteria and hypochondria</i>	60
<i>The discursive construction of 'hysterical anorexia'</i>	61
<i>Constructing the hysterical anorexic subject</i>	64
<i>The nosology of 'anorexia nervosa' and the politics of 'discovery'</i>	66
<i>Consolidating 'the nervous woman'</i>	68
<i>The ensuing debate: 1874–1900</i>	69
<i>Conclusion</i>	74
<b>4 DISCOURSING ANOREXIAS IN THE LATE TWENTIETH CENTURY</b>	<b>76</b>
<i>Anorexia nervosa: from nineteenth- to twentieth-century texts</i>	77
<i>Anorexia nervosa as natural disease category</i>	78
<i>Anorexia nervosa as genetic predisposition</i>	80
<i>Anorexia nervosa as affective disorder</i>	81
<i>Anorexia nervosa as cognitive dysfunction</i>	81
<i>Anorexia nervosa and body-image distortion</i>	83
<i>Family-oriented and psychodynamic discourses</i>	84
<i>Anorexia nervosa and the discourse on restrained eating</i>	89
<i>Anorexia nervosa in socio-cultural context</i>	92
<i>Anorexia nervosa and the question of gender</i>	94
<i>Conclusions: fictioning anorexia nervosa</i>	97
<b>Part III Women's talk? Productions of the anorexic body in popular discourse</b>	
<b>5 THE THIN/ANOREXIC BODY AND THE DISCURSIVE PRODUCTION OF GENDER</b>	<b>103</b>
<i>Construing the fat and the thin body</i>	104
<i>Gendering the thin/anorexic body</i>	105
<i>Be more beautiful: a discourse from magazines</i>	111
<i>The anorexic body as a struggle over meaning</i>	112
<i>Differing with gender</i>	114
<i>Conclusions</i>	120
<b>6 SUBJECTIVITY, EMBODIMENT AND GENDER IN A DISCOURSE OF CARTESIAN DUALISM</b>	<b>121</b>
<i>The discursive production of control</i>	121
<i>A controlled body – a controlled life</i>	122
<i>A dualistic construction of eating</i>	124
<i>Food as an object of dualistic discourse</i>	125
<i>Dualistic constructions of body fat</i>	129
<i>The 'ideal' of the non-body</i>	133
<i>The anorexic body as signifier of transcending power</i>	134
<i>The excesses of 'woman' and 'the body' of dualistic discourse</i>	136
<i>Conclusion</i>	141

## CONTENTS

7 ANOREXIA AND THE DISCURSIVE PRODUCTION OF THE SELF	142
<i>Anorexia as disputed category</i>	142
<i>Anorexia, resistance and identity</i>	145
<i>Anorexia, identity and lack</i>	147
<i>Woman, identity and lack</i>	149
<i>Ideologies of selfhood and a discourse of individualism</i>	151
<i>Conclusion</i>	157
8 DISCURSIVE SELF-PRODUCTION AND SELF-DESTRUCTION	159
<i>Negative constructions of the self</i>	159
<i>Anorexia as self-punishment</i>	162
<i>(Un)comfortably numb: purging, purity and emptiness</i>	166
<i>'Discipline and punish': detailing individuality</i>	169
<i>The vision thing: panopticism and the disciplined individual</i>	171
<i>Visibility and the thin/anorexic body</i>	174
<i>Visibility and psychoanalytic theorizations of subjectivity and gender</i>	175
<i>Anorexia, death, the mother and the ethereal woman</i>	178
<i>Conclusion</i>	186
CONCLUSIONS	188
APPENDIX	194
<i>Notes</i>	197
<i>References</i>	203
<i>Index</i>	225