

Contents

1. Introduction: Jewish Existence	1
Covenant Transformations	3
Covenant and Modernity	6
The Contemporary Covenantal Crisis	8
Literary Response to Covenant Crisis	10
American Judaism and the Holocaust	11
Contributions of American Jewish Holocaust Novelists	14
2. Holocaust as Watershed	17
Holocaust Problematics	18
Theological Responses	21
Theology and Literature	29
Is the Holocaust Beyond Artistic Expression?	30
Who Should Write of the Holocaust?	31
Trivializing the Holocaust	32
American Jewish Writers and the Holocaust: A Critique	33
The Role of the American Jewish Novelist	35
3. Holocaust Responses I: Judaism as a Religious Value System	39
The Holocaust and American Diaspora Jewry	40
Hasidic Tales	41
Considering the Evidence	42

Arthur A. Cohen	42
Cynthia Ozick	49
Hugh Nissenson	59
Elie Wiesel	65
Isaac B. Singer	79
Conclusion	88
4. Holocaust Responses II: Judaism as a Secular Value System	91
Considering the Evidence	94
Bernard Malamud	94
Saul Bellow	96
Susan F. Schaeffer	110
Cynthia Ozick	120
<u>Pre-Holocaust America: Jewish Existence and Covenant Diminishment</u>	137
Hugh Nissenson	137
Robert Kotlowitz	144
Conclusion	149
5. Holocaust Responses III: Symbolic Judaism	151
Considering the Evidence	153
Philip Roth ✕	153
Richard Elman	160
Edward Lewis Wallant	164
Norma Rosen	172
Bernard Malamud	175
Conclusion	184
6. Holocaust and Covenant	187
The Central Question for Contemporary Judaism	187
Holocaust Fiction <i>Lato Sensu</i>	190
Problems and Possibilities	192
Notes	197
Index	219