

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	x
Introduction	1
The Politics of Literacy	8
Education	10
The Female Reader	12
Women's Books	16
This Book	21
1 Gendering the English Reformation: The Vernacular Reader in Anne Askew's <i>Examinations</i> and Katherine Parr's <i>Lamentacion of a Synner</i>	25
Anne Askew and the Femininity of Protestant Polemic	34
Katherine Parr and the 'ignoraunce of her blind life'	44
<i>The Monument of Matrones</i>	52
Conclusion	55
2 Dorothy Leigh, the 'Labourous Bee,' and the Work of Literacy in Seventeenth-Century England	57
Maternal Reading Instruction	59
The Labour of Reading	62
The Gender(ed) Politics of Puritan Reading	68
The Maternal Voice in English Politics	75
Conclusion	80
3 A 'Wit's Camelion': Elizabeth Grymeston and the Catholic Reader	83
Catholic Mothers and Readers	86
Anne Cornwallis's <i>Commonplace Book</i>	91
Grymeston and the <i>Commonplace</i>	98
Grymeston's Reader: Thomas Chaffyn	102
The Voice at the Priest Hide	106
Conclusion	111
4 Reading the Passion Among Women: Aemelia Lanyer and Elizabeth Middleton	115
Lanyer's Desiring Female Readers	120
The Power of the Passion	129
Elizabeth Middleton's 'Free Guifte'	135
Conclusion	144

5	'Onely a Cipher': Reading and Writing Secrets in Lady Mary Wroth's	
	<i>The Countess of Montgomery's Urania</i>	145
	Melasinda's Dainty Cabinet	147
	Reading Pamphilia's Ciphers	152
	History in Fiction: Wroth and her Readers	160
	Conclusion	165
	<i>Selected Bibliography</i>	169
	<i>Index</i>	181