ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

No enterprise is ever undertaken in a vacuum, and this work is no exception. I, therefore, take this opportunity to express my sense of gratitude to all who helped me at various places in the completion of my research work.

First and foremost, I would like to thank my guru and guide Prof. Ranjana Harish for showing me what heights women’s writing, especially the genre of autobiography, could scale. During the course of my research work, her patience and compassion helped me to convert this arduous task into an alleviating project. Her insight as well as her faith set a dazzling example of what it is to be both teacher and mentor. I can never repay what she has taught me, but I can only hope to extend to my own students a small portion of what Prof. Ranjana Harish has given to me.

I would also like to express my deep sense of gratitude to my teacher Prof. Benson Agarwarkar for introducing me to Judaism and making me understand what it means to be a warm-hearted Jew. I shall always remain indebted to him for allowing me to borrow books from his personal library.

I wish to thank Dr. Shulamit Reinharz, Co-Director, Hadassah-Brandeis Institute, Brandeis University, Massachusetts; for kindly offering me research associateship. I thank all the members of Hadassah-Brandeis Institute, especially Ms. Debby Olins, for providing Jewish newsletters and journals. Additionally, I thank Prof. Dana Ward, Pitzer College, for sharing
a personal copy of Goldman’s autobiography. I also appreciate the help offered by the members of INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad.

On a personal note, I would like to thank my mother, Ms. Nalini Brahmbhatt, for being the source of strength during this incredible journey and my brother Apurva for his never-ending support. I thank sister Medha and friend Monal for their unconditional love and care.

I especially want to acknowledge the caring support offered by Dr. Kishorsinh Solanki, the Principal of my college and thank my enthusiastic young colleague, Mr. Vaibhav Kothari, for his ceaseless words of encouragement.

I would like to extend my sense of gratitude towards all my friends and colleagues at Samarpan Arts and Commerce College, Gandhinagar, for helping me in the process of completion of my research work. I am also thankful to Mr. Pandurangan Rao for meticulously typing this thesis.

Finally, I dedicate this work to my father, Mr. Aniruddha Brahmbhatt, for inspiring me to continue with the legacy of literature he has left behind.

Rucha A.Brahmbhatt