ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank my supervisor, Dr. Prabhat Mathur, Reader, Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in English, M.M.H. College, Ghaziabad for the care with which he reviewed the original manuscript and gave his most valuable suggestions. I am very grateful to him for many insightful conversations and helpful comments during the development of this thesis.

I express my sincere gratitude to my parents, Shri Kishan Lal Agarwal and Smt. Meera Agarwal, for their unconditional support and encouragement to pursue my interests in literature.

I am greatly indebted to my-in-laws Shri Vijay Goel and Smt. Usha Goel, without whose support and inspiration, it would have remained a dream to me. Their affection and confidence helped me at every step and they taught me the need to be persistent to accomplish my goal.

It gives me immense pleasure to thank my husband Mr. Manoj Goel for his whole-hearted assistance and encouragement. My sons Tanishq and Vdit also deserve thanks for giving their precious time to complete this project.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Dr. P.C. Sharma, Head of the Department, English, M.M.H. College, Sh. H.C. Nagar, Principal, Ch. L.N. Inter College and Dr. Taruna Tyagi, Principal, Sushila Inter College for their support.
No work is ever the product of one person's effort and certainly this one is not different. It would never have become reality without the help and suggestions of many supportive friends, relatives, teachers and colleagues. I express my feelings of gratitude to all of them who directly or indirectly helped me in pursuing this work.

I thank Almighty God for His heavenly blessings and giving me strength and confidence to accomplish this work.

(Alpna Goel)