The topic for this study has perhaps been rather ambitious in its range. It was, in fact, decided on after a deep deliberation. The choice of it was influenced primarily by a hope of being able to arrive at some fresh insights.

The most formidable challenge posed by the choice of a wide-ranging field has been of reducing the scope of the work to viable dimensions. It has entailed certain arbitrary omissions. Another baffling problem has been the inaccessibility of a good part of the contributions made by critics in both the U.K. and the U.S.A., particularly in recent years. And, with all the generous help received from the A.S.R.C., Hyderabad, and the British Council Library, Madras, it has imposed a severe limitation on the work. The effort might well have been far more rewarding and satisfying in its absence.

The study is focused on some of the major poets of the twentieth century in whom Romantic propensities have gone hand-in-hand with acute sceptical tendencies. A large number of poets whose Romantic leanings are more pronounced have had to be pushed to the side-lines in the process most apologetically.
The study is divided into seven chapters:

Chapter I presents the argument in three parts dealing respectively with its general, theoretical and technical aspects (Pages 1-47).

Chapter II discusses the Romantic affinities of Edward Thomas (Pages 48-75).

Chapter III is meant to highlight the intellectual strain in the 'facile' Romanticism of Walter de la Mare (Pages 76-92).

Chapter IV is on the early poetry of W.B.Yeats and is meant as an introductory to the more important chapter that follows (Pages 93-109).

Chapter V is devoted to the later poetry of Yeats (Pages 110-172).

Chapter VI concerns itself with the contribution of T.S.Eliot to the Romantic tradition (Pages 173-218).

Chapter VII sums up the argument after a brief survey of the post-modernist trends affecting the prospects of the Romantic tradition (Pages 219-242).