ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My thanks and acknowledgements are due to my worthy supervisor R.K. Sharma, Reader and Head, Department of English, P.G. Regional Centre, Rewari, for his valuable and expert guidance, to the honourable faculty members of M.D. University, Rohtak to my Principal, Ms. S. Sharma and to my many friends, colleagues and all those close acquaintances who helped me in one way or the other in writing this thesis.

I am equally very grateful to my parents, my father, Principal J.P. Chaudhry for his angelic inspiration and courage, especially when he saw me falter any time during the research period. My younger sister Ms. Neelam Sheoran, Lecturer in Physics, and her husband Sh. M.S. Sheoran procured valuable rare material for which I thank them with all warmth and love. My special thanks are due to my family, my husband Sh. D.S. Malik and my two sons Ankush and Anshul who readily sacrificed their comforts and interests for providing me long hours of concentration at the writing desk. But for their constant encouragement, inspiration and cooperation, it would not have been possible for me to complete this study.

I am equally grateful to the staff of M.D. University Library, American Studies Research Centre, Hyderabad, American Centre, New Delhi, for their full
cooperation in making available to me the books, journals and other articles related to my thesis.

I am also thankful to Mr. Ashok Gupta for typing the thesis so well with the interest and accuracy.

Rohtak
April, 10, 1999

(Suresh Bala)