The first chapter outlines the central concern of the present study and indicates how it is proposed to analyse the eight novels of Audrey Thomas – *Mrs. Blood, Munchmeyer and Prospero on the Island, Songs My Mother Taught Me, Blown Figures, Latakia, Intertidal Life, Graven Images* and *Coming Down from Wa* from the perspective of causes, manifestations and consequences of alienation and the patterns of struggle to overcome alienation. It also briefly discusses some of the major themes and techniques of Audrey Thomas. Relevant criticism on Audrey Thomas is reviewed in this chapter with a view to justifying the topic of research. This chapter gives an overall idea of the theme of alienation relating to the individual in every novel of Audrey Thomas. The intention is to highlight how alienation, as a theme, takes shape and finds its fullest expression in the novels.

The second chapter examines the psychological, social, domestic and regional factors that cause alienation. Displacement, split personality and the breakdown of existing relationships are identified as major causes of alienation. *Mrs. Blood, Isobel, Miranda, Rachel, Alice and Sandy* feel that they have been excluded from the society in some way or other. This leads to their experiencing frustration.
which, consequently, leads to a sense of alienation. The experience ranges from a sense of insecurity, disillusionment, incompatibility, split love between two persons, and a sense of mystery.

In the third chapter, an attempt has been made to analyse the various consequences and manifestations of alienation. The characters experience a struggle, both within and without. In the course of the struggle, the characters lose their accountability and credibility. They are consequently left alone and loveless and are locked up in their own inescapable shell. In Audrey Thomas’ characters, anxiety, withdrawal, uncertainty and indecision are the consequences of alienation.

The fourth chapter examines the attempts made by the characters to overcome the disruptive force of alienation. The strategies adopted by the characters are questioning, retrospection (recollection), seeking freedom and new connections, new resolutions and communication with oneself and others through writing. The strategies are examined in relation to the success or failure of the characters in overcoming their alienated condition in life.

The final chapter recapitulates major arguments and also presents and discusses the major research findings.