Preface

The proposal for this dissertation has its origin in a discussion I had on Jean Rhys with Professor Rama Kundu of Burdwan University. Professor Kundu, my teacher, suggested that I should explore the dilemma of ‘home’ and ‘identity’ that is very pertinent in Rhys’s works. She provided me with all the primary materials. I take this opportunity to acknowledge my indebtedness to her.

It had been initially difficult to find the right focus and methodology in my study on Rhys. However, after some discussion with Professor Himadri Lahiri, my supervisor, I decided to explore facets of ‘home’ and ‘homelessness’ in Rhys’s works and to work out an appropriate critical framework. Though some isolated works on this aspect are available, they are quite ‘in comprehensive.’ No book-length study has exclusively been done on this area. I express my sincerest gratitude to Professor Lahiri for his undaunted patience, his constant encouragement and his unfailing guidance. He had painstakingly gone through innumerable drafts and advised me to be objective in my approach. Without his untiring help this dissertation would have been impossible.

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I must also mention that I have followed the norms of citation and documentation as prescribed by the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (Seventh Edition). The Select Bibliography has been subdivided into different genres as per the entry no. 5. 3. 3. “Arrangements of Entries” (131 – 33) mentioned in the *Handbook.*

(Chaitali Goral)