Acknowledgements

I am highly indebted to my supervisor Dr. Kishori Nayak, K. Reader, P.G. Department of Studies in English, Mangalore University, Mangalagangothri, Karnataka, India, for having given me encouragement and valuable guidance throughout in my present venture without which the work might not have been completed. She has tirelessly taken pains to guide me in right earnest to transform me from a layman to almost a scholarly status in a short span of time, which reminds me of Pygmalion by Shaw.

I am grateful to Prof. James Gunn Director, Center for Science Fiction Studies, University of Kansas, USA for he has generously given me valuable material. Throughout, he has also promptly answered my queries online within 12 hours. In the same way, I am grateful for the guidance given to me by Professors Gururao Bapat, Purushothaman, and Panneer Selvam.

I wish to express my hearty gratitude to IACIS Hyderabad, USIS New Delhi, USEFI Chennai, IASFS Vellore, P.G. Departments of English Kuvempu University, B.R. Project, Mangalore University Mangala Gangothri, and University of Mysore, Manasa Gangothri, Mysore as these
centres of learning have supplied sufficient impetus for my pursuit of knowledge.


My sincere thanks must be conveyed to Ravindra, Pradeep Kumar and Sanjay Kumar for giving me permission to work in their computer training institutes at night. Moreover, I have to thank my computer 'Salley' for her cooperation and timely advice.

Lastly, I thank my wife Kamala who has sacrificed much for my progress. She has endured very much for a period of four years, during which I used to come home past midnight from the computer centres. Likewise, I thank my daughter Vaishnavi as she has constantly not only tracked the progress of my work but also rejuvenated the strength in me to pursue my studies further. Hence, the present work is dedicated to them.

- M.H.Srinarahari.