ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I have realized that it is impossible to write a research project without the constant encouragement and support of the many around. It is my pleasure to express my sincere thanks to my supervisor, Dr. Lovelina Singh, Professor in Panjab University, Chandigarh, under whose able guidance and rare foresight I undertook the present research work. Her encouraging and helping attitude, constructive criticism and patience have greatly contributed to the completion of the thesis. It was an enlightening experience to work under her guidance.

Sincere gratitude is expressed to Professor Harpreet Pruthi, Head of the English Department, Panjab University, Chandigarh, for providing all the facilities and un-failing cooperation to carry out this research work.

I am greatly beholden to Dr. Rana Nayar, Professor in English Department, who had been a constant source of inspiration and motivation to me.

I would not have been able to complete my work without the constant support of my family. I am grateful to my father who is not among us anymore but his presence is always felt. I am indebted to my dear mother for always inspiring me and never letting me give up.

I extend my thanks to my three brothers for being what they are.

Words cannot express my gratitude to my loving son who is my pillar of strength.

My affectionate thanks to my friend Mrs. Kiran Deep (Pasricha) who was very kind and supportive during the progress of my project. Indeed, she translated the meaning of sisterhood for me.

Last in the list, but always the first in my thoughts, I thank God for making everything possible.

R•Yaghvanth

23 August 2019