Preface

Ruth Prawer Jhabvala is one of the major Indo-Anglian novelists. Born in Germany and educated at London, she married an Indian architect and subsequently lived for twenty-four years in India. Her long stay in India enabled her to see Indian society at close quarters. All of her works reflect her mingled affection and impatience with her adopted country and show intimate knowledge of the lives of both Indian and European families. Jhabvala is familiar face in the field of fiction and screenplay. She was awarded Booker Prize for Heat and Dust in 1975 and Mac Arthur Foundation Award (1984), Academy Award (1986) and many other prestigious awards. Her novels, screenplays and stories brought her worldwide recognition in India and abroad.

The study of Jhabvala's works is comprehensive, self sufficient and an in-depth study of novels. The thesis examines aspects as race relations, man-woman relations, social, cultural, economical themes, form, structure and technique. It provides useful background materials related to her life, works and vision of India and the world.
The submission of this thesis gives me lot of pleasure, satisfaction and unique sense of fulfillment despite many difficulties and troubles in its way. This endeavor could not have been possible without the help of so many persons. I take this opportunity to convey my sincere thanks and heart-felt gratitude to all of them who helped me to make this task possible in its present fruitful form.

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