

Acknowledgements

My warmest thanks go to my advisor, Dr. Tsui-fen Jiang, for her consideration, encouragement, and guidance throughout my research for this work. Her careful reading, inspiring suggestions, and patient instruction always make me confident of myself in the process of working on my thesis.

For their careful reading of the manuscript and for helpful suggestions, I want to thank Dr. Chien-Chi Liu and Dr. Hsiu-Chih Tsai. My gratitude is also extended to the teachers of the department of English, National Cheng-Chi University, for their scholarly and inspiring literary lectures.

I also greatly appreciate my classmates, Jessie, Colleen, Elaine, and Matt, who accompanied me throughout the four years of studying and shared their precious experience with me.

Finally, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to my family: my grandmother, my mother, and my sisters. I want to thank Monia for his warm encouragement and company. Their endless support has made this work possible. I am also grateful to my pet sheep, Urine. Without his company throughout the years of writing my thesis, I would feel lonely.