

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE	VII
INTRODUCTION	IX
CHAPTER ONE	
ON DESIRE	1
1.1 What Desire?	1
1.2 Desire as Lack	6
1.3 Freudian Desire	25
1.4 Lacanian Desire	27
1.5 Levinas and the Desire of the Other	32
CHAPTER TWO	
A PERENNIALY DULL AND INDISTINCT PAIN: “VAIN LONGING THAT VAIN LONGING GO”	43
2.1 “ <i>Souffrance</i> ” and “Suffering of being”	44
2.2 “ <i>Souffrance</i> ” and “Suffering of being” in the pessimistic tradition	49
2.3 Leopardi and Beckett within the nihilist tradition	55
2.4 “ <i>Souffrance</i> ” and “Suffering of being” within the Heideggerian existential tradition and the Levinasian “ <i>Il y a</i> ”	64
CHAPTER THREE	
MAKING SUFFERING SUFFERABLE: DESIRE FOR THE OTHER IN LEOPARDI AND BECKETT	69
3.1 Lacanian versus Levinasian Desire	73
3.2 Compassion as <i>Pietas</i> to overcome Ataraxia: Desire for the O/other in Leopardi	82
3.3 Lacanian and Levinasian Desire for the Other in <i>Endgame</i>	100
3.4 Lacanian and Levinasian Desire for the Other in <i>Happy Days</i>	123
CONCLUSION	135
REFERENCES	139
INDEX OF NAMES	153