Contents

Preface Conjuring Ghosts with William Kennedy	:		
Conjuring Ghosts with william Kennedy	Xi		
PART ONE			
About Kennedy and His Work: Reviews, Profiles, and Interviews			
Introduction to Part One	3		
The Sudden Fame of William Kennedy Margaret Croyden	7		
O Albany! O Kennedy! Doris Grumbach	19		
William Kennedy: Interview Edward Schwarzschild	29		
Human Capital: O Albany! Pays Homage to the Hard-to-Love City That Is the Greatest Hero of Kennedy's Novels Stefan Beck	45		
Violent Places: On Ghosts, Bums, and Redemption in <i>Ironweed</i> Robert Towers	53		
The Literary Brilliance of the Opening of <i>Ironweed</i> Donald Newlove	59		
Rattling Great Yarn: <i>Quinn's Book</i> Fintan O'Toole	63		

VIII	CONTENTS

Family Values: William Kennedy's Very Old Bones Thomas R. Edwards	67
Bootlegger of the Soul: An Introduction to Roscoe Colum McCann	73
O Albany! <i>Roscoe</i> and the Triumph of Kennedy's Albany Cycle <i>Thomas Flanagan</i>	77
World Premiere of <i>Roscoe:</i> American Opera at Its Finest Anthony P. Radford	89
Jam Session: A Review of Changó's Beads and Two-Tone Shoes John Sayles	93
An Interview with William Kennedy: From Novelist to Screenwriter William Patrick	97
Photos: William Kennedy's Literary Biography	111
PART TWO	
Kennedy in His Own Words: Essays, Speeches, Memorial Tributes, and Creative Work	
Introduction to Part Two	145
Why It Took So Long	149
Reinventing Albany in Fiction: Notes from a Native Son	157
Learning from Faulkner: The Obituary of Fear	173
Gifts from Joyce	181
Saul Bellow In Memoriam (1915–2005): A Great Insistent Gift	197
A Nonpareil Force Field: A Tribute to Norman Mailer	203
A Box of Books: An Exchange, on Matters Literary and Postal, with Hunter S. Thompson	209
1	
<u>-</u>	215
The Secrets of Creative Love: A Short Story	215 227
The Secrets of Creative Love: A Short Story In the System: A Technology Play Photos: William Kennedy's Albany—The City and Inspiration	

\circ	
CONTENTS	IX

PART THREE

Scholarly Perspectives: Critical Views of Kennedy's Novels

Introduction to Part Three	267
William Kennedy as Journalist: Springboard to Novelist Douglas Brinkley	271
Edward and Katrina Daugherty: A Match Made in Albany, Not in Heaven Vivian Valvano Lynch	285
The Snows of Reduction: Representing Homelessness in <i>Ironweed Benedict Giamo</i>	307
A Magical Time in Albany Christian Michener	319
The Cyclical Impulse of <i>The Flaming Corsage</i> Michael Patrick Gillespie	339
Courtesans, Stars, Wives, and Vixens: The Many Faces of Female Power in Kennedy's Novels Neila C. Seshachari	359
Epilogue	373
Acknowledgments	379
Contributors	381
Index	385