

Acknowledgments

Tremendous thanks are due my family, and the friends and colleagues who helped see me through to the end. Francine Masiello's encouragement, her demanding reading of my work, and her example as mentor and scholar got me started and keep me going. Emilie Bergmann, Tony Cascardi, Abdul JanMohamed, David Lloyd, Felicia Miller, and Bill Berges made careful and generous comments on portions of early drafts, while Debbie Ivens' computer support saved me from the despair of endless retyping. Connie Sullivan, Amy Kaminsky, Naomi Scheman, and Cheri Register have been the ideal reading group—challenging and supportive friends—in the last stages.

I especially want to thank José Cerna-Bazán and Silvia López for their careful and insightful comments on the manuscript while acting as my research assistants. Leslie Bary's friendship and intellectual companionship have accompanied this project from the beginning, and Maria Damon helped me recover the joy of writing amid distractions.

I'm grateful to Theresa May at the University of Texas Press for her interest and her calm and cheerful support throughout the process. I also want to thank the two anonymous readers for the Press, whose meticulous, critical, and honest readings inspired my revisions and provided me with a model of professional generosity. And I must thank Maureen Ahern, both for her contributions to the academic study of Castellanos' work and for the role her translations play in bringing Castellanos' writing and ideas to my English-speaking students.

I would like to acknowledge gratefully the support of the University of Minnesota for the single quarter leave in fall 1991 and for grants-in-aid in 1991–1992 and 1993–1994, which enabled me to complete portions of this book.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Prospero's Daughter

THE PROSE OF ROSARIO CASTELLANOS

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK