

Contents



Acknowledgments	ix
List of Abbreviations	xi
<i>Chapter 1</i> Introduction: Antecedents of the Victorian “Goddess Story”	I
<i>Chapter 2</i> “Gods of the old mythology arise”: Charlotte Brontë’s Vision of the “Goddess Story”	24
<i>Chapter 3</i> Feminist Reincarnations of the Madonna: Anna Jameson and Ecclesiastical Debates on the Immaculate Conception	49
<i>Chapter 4</i> Invoking “all the godheads”: Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s Polytheistic Aesthetic	73
<i>Chapter 5</i> Eve, the Female Messiah, and the Virgin in Florence Nightingale’s Personal and Public Papers	98
<i>Chapter 6</i> Ariadne and the Madonna: The Hermeneutics of the Goddess in George Eliot’s <i>Romola</i>	121
<i>Afterword</i>	143
Notes	145
Bibliography	155
Index	171