

CONTENTS

<i>List of Plates</i>	<i>page</i> xii
<i>Preface</i>	xv
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xviii
Introduction	i
Supernatural Beings: The Search for Origins	6
Approach of the Book	25
Sources	30
Structure of the Book	33
1 A World Full of Small Gods:	
Understanding Godlings	37
<i>Di nemorum</i> : Ancient Understandings of Godlings	40
Godlings in the <i>longue durée</i>	47
Animism, ‘Shamanism’ and Therianthropy	
in the British Iron Age	60
One or Many, Male or Female?	70
Godlings, Hags and Witches	74
Spirits of the Waters	78
Conclusion	87
2 Menagerie of the Divine: Godlings	
in Roman Britain	89
<i>Interpretatio Romana</i>	94
The Nymphs	99
Goddesses of Destiny	103
The Lares and Penates	110

Contents

	Faunus, Silvanus and Bacchic Cults	112
	Genii Loci	129
	Conclusion	133
3	The Nymph and the Cross: Godlings and Christianisation	136
	An Interpretative Model: Demonisation, Undemonisation and Re-Personification	142
	Understanding Christianisation and Syncretism	156
	Christianisation and Godlings in Late Roman Britain	167
	The Evidence of Penitentials	181
	Anglo-Saxon Pagans in a Roman Landscape	187
	Conclusion	193
4	Furies, Elves and Giants: Godlings in Early Medieval Britain	194
	The Influence of Learned Traditions	196
	The Brittonic Linguistic and Onomastic Evidence	200
	Fauns, Woodwoses and the Origins of Male Fairies	212
	Elves	222
	Female Godlings in Early Medieval Britain	225
	Pygmy Otherworlders	238
	Work of Giants	243
	Conclusion	248
5	The Fairy Synthesis: Godlings in Later Medieval Britain	250
	Medieval Fairies	252
	The Norman Cultural Revolution	256
	From Elves to Fairies	260
	From Fauns to Fairies	263
	Parcae, Fates and Nymphs	273

Contents

Fairy Kings and Fairy Otherworlds	278
Medieval Folklore	283
Fairies and Romance	292
Fairies in Ritual Magic	298
Conclusion	302
Epilogue: The Fairy Legacy	305
The Classicising Legacy	310
Almost Human, Not Quite Divine	317
<i>Bibliography</i>	322
<i>Index</i>	349

The plate section is to be found between pages 192 and 193