The animals that appear in Samuel Beckett’s work are diverse and unpredictable. They serve as victim and persecutor, companion and adversary, disconcerting observers and objects oblivious to the human gaze. Bringing together an international array of Beckett specialists, this is the first full-length study to explore the significance of the animals that populate Beckett’s prose, drama and poetry. Essays theorize a broad spectrum of animal manifestations whilst focussing on the roles that distinct animal forms play within Beckett’s work, including horses, sheep, cats, dogs, bees, insects and others. Contributors situate close readings within a larger literary and cultural context, drawing on thinkers ranging from Aristotle to Deleuze, Foucault and Agamben, and on authors such as Flaubert, Kafka and Coetzee. The result is an incisive and provocative collection that traverses disciplinary boundaries, revealing how Beckett’s creatures challenge conventional notions of species identity and, ultimately, what it means to be human.

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BECKETT AND ANIMALS

EDITED BY

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Acknowledgements
Abbreviations

CSPL  Collected Shorter Plays of Samuel Beckett (London: Faber, 1984)
DFMW  Dream of Fair to Middling Women (Dublin: Black Cat, 1992)
DIS  Disjecta, ed. by Ruby Cohn (London: John Calder, 1983)
EG  Endgame (London: Faber, 1958)
FDP  Fin de partie (Paris: Editions de Minuit, 1957)
HII  How It Is (London: John Calder, 1964)
LI  L’Innommable (Paris: Editions de Minuit, 1953)
MC  Mercier et Camier (Paris: Editions de Minuit, 1970)
MCA  Mercier and Camier (London: Picador, 1988)
ML  Molloy (Paris: Editions de Minuit, 1951 [1982 printing])
MLA  Molloy (London: Faber, 2009)
MM  Malone Meurt (Paris: Editions de Minuit, 1951)
MPTK  More Pricks Than Kicks (London: Calder and Boyars, 1970)
MU  Murphy (London: Picador, 1973)
NO  Nohow On (London: Calder, 1992)
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<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<td>P</td>
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<td>PFE</td>
<td><em>Pour finir encore, in Pour finir encore et autres foirades</em> (Paris: Editions de Minuit, 1991), pp. 8–12</td>
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<td>TCD</td>
<td>Trinity College Dublin</td>
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<td>UoR</td>
<td>University of Reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td><em>Watt</em> (London: John Calder, 1976)</td>
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<td>WFG</td>
<td><em>Waiting for Godot</em> (London: Faber, 2010)</td>
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