

Cambridge University Press  
0521021626 - Naturalist Fiction: The Entropic Vision  
David Baguley  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

*Cambridge Studies in French*

NATURALIST FICTION

Cambridge University Press  
0521021626 - Naturalist Fiction: The Entropic Vision  
David Baguley  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

*Cambridge Studies in French*

General editor: MALCOLM BOWIE

*Recent titles in this series include:*

CELIA BRITTON  
*Claude Simon: Writing the Visible*

DAVID SCOTT  
*Pictorialist Poetics: Poetry and the Visual Arts in  
Nineteenth-Century France*

ANN JEFFERSON  
*Reading Realism in Stendhal*

DALIA JUDOVITZ  
*Subjectivity and Representation in Descartes: The Origins  
of Modernity*

RICHARD D.E. BURTON  
*Baudelaire in 1859: A Study in the Sources of Poetic Creativity*

MICHAEL MORIARTY  
*Taste and Ideology in Seventeenth-Century France*

JOHN FORRESTER  
*The Seductions of Psychoanalysis: On Freud, Lacan and Derrida*

JEROME SCHWARTZ  
*Irony and Ideology in Rabelais: Structures of Subversion*

For a full list of books in the series, see the last pages in this volume.

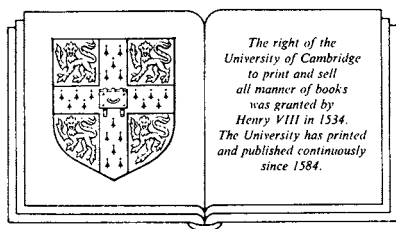
Cambridge University Press  
0521021626 - Naturalist Fiction: The Entropic Vision  
David Baguley  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

# NATURALIST FICTION

## THE ENTROPIC VISION

*DAVID BAGULEY*

*Professor of French, University of Western Ontario*



**CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS**

**CAMBRIDGE**

**NEW YORK PORT CHESTER**

**MELBOURNE SYDNEY**

Cambridge University Press  
 0521021626 - Naturalist Fiction: The Entropic Vision  
 David Baguley  
 Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
 Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

Cambridge University Press  
 The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)  
 Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9780521373807](http://www.cambridge.org/9780521373807)

© Cambridge University Press 1990

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception  
 and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,  
 no reproduction of any part may take place without  
 the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1990  
 This digitally printed first paperback version 2005

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

*Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data*

Baguley, David.  
 Naturalist fiction: the entropic vision / David Baguley.  
 p. cm. — (Cambridge studies in French)  
 Bibliography.  
 Includes index.  
 ISBN 0-521-37380-8  
 1. French fiction — 19th century — History and criticism.  
 2. Naturalism in literature. I. Title. II. Series.  
 PQ653.B34 1990  
 843'.70912 — dc20 89-32593CIP

ISBN-13 978-0-521-37380-7 hardback  
 ISBN-10 0-521-37380-8 hardback

ISBN-13 978-0-521-02162-3 paperback  
 ISBN-10 0-521-02162-6 paperback

Cambridge University Press

0521021626 - Naturalist Fiction: The Entropic Vision

David Baguley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

*For Natasha and Alexander*

## CONTENTS

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	page viii
Introduction	1
1 Histories	10
2 Theories: realism, naturalism, genre	40
3 The founding texts	71
4 The tragic model	97
5 Comic strains	120
6 In the ironic modes: naturalist satire and parody	142
7 The 'scandal' of naturalism	164
8 Naturalist description	184
9 The entropic vision	204
10 By way of conclusion: two English examples	224
<i>Notes</i>	235
<i>Translations of passages in French</i>	261
<i>Select bibliography</i>	269
<i>Index</i>	281

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am deeply indebted to numerous colleagues and friends who have provided me with many useful suggestions and much practical help essential to the completion of this book. I should also like to thank the editorial and production staff of Cambridge University Press for their invaluable assistance. In certain parts I have reworked studies that have previously been published, either in English or in French, in the journals *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature*, *L'Esprit créateur*, *French Forum*, *Romance Studies*, *University of Toronto Quarterly*, and in the collection *Le Naturalisme en question* (ed. Yves Chevrel). I wish to express my thanks to the editors in question for permission to take up this material again. I am most grateful also for generous grants from the Faculty of Arts of the University of Western Ontario and from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada that have made possible the research which, over a number of years, has gone into this study.