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*The Family in Crisis in Late Nineteenth-Century French Fiction* focusses on a key moment in the construction of the modern view of the family in France. Nicholas White's analysis of novels by Zola, Maupassant, Huysmans, Hennique, Bourget and Armand Charpentier is fashioned by perspectives on a wide cultural field, including legal, popular and academic discourses on the family and its discontents. His account encourages a close rereading of canonical as well as hitherto overlooked texts from *fin-de-siècle* France. What emerges between the death of Flaubert in 1880 and the publication of Bourget's *Un divorce* in 1904 is a series of Naturalist and post-Naturalist representations of transgressive behaviour in which tales of adultery, illegitimacy, consanguinity, incest and divorce serve to exemplify and to offer a range of nuances on the Third Republic's crisis in what might now be termed 'family values'.

Nicholas White is Lecturer in French at Royal Holloway, University of London. He is editor (with Naomi Segal) of *Scarlet Letters: Fictions of Adultery from Antiquity to the 1990s*, and he has also edited Zola's *L'Assommoir* and Huysmans's *Against Nature*.

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*In memory of Jack Morris  
teacher, scholar, raconteur*

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