

Contents

	<i>Preface</i>	page vii
	<i>Chronology</i>	ix
1	Contexts	1
	1 Biographical sketch	1
	2 Historical contexts	5
	3 <i>The Stranger</i> and the war	11
2	<i>The Stranger</i>	14
	4 Meursault's languages	14
	5 A mother unmourned?	29
	6 Class and race	37
	7 An Arab is somehow murdered	45
	8 An Arab forgotten and a mother appeased	52
	9 Meursault judges the judges	57
	10 God is dead and Existentialism is born	66
3	Early Camus and Sartre	72
	11 The cycle of the absurd	72
	12 Different views of freedom	79
4	<i>Camus and the Algerian war</i>	87

vi	Contents	
5	Why and how we read <i>The Stranger</i> : a guide to further reading	96
13	Contemporaries, precursors and followers	96
14	Suggestions for further reading	103
15	Translations	106
16	<i>Lo Straniero</i>	108