JOYCE, RACE AND FINNEGANS WAKE

Len Platt charts a new approach through one of the great masterpieces of twentieth-century literature. Using original archival research and detailed close readings, he outlines Joyce's literary response to the racial discourse of twentieth-century politics. Platt's account is the first to position Finnegans Wake in precise historical conditions and to explore Joyce's engagement with European fascism. Race, Platt claims, is a central theme for Joyce, both in terms of the colonial and postcolonial conflicts between the Irish and the British, and in terms of its use by the extreme right. It is in this context that Joyce's engagement with race, while certainly a product of colonial relations, also figures as a wider disputation with rationalism, capitalism and modernity. This political analysis of Finnegans Wake will change the way this key modernist text is read, and will provide a fresh and fascinating historical context for all scholars of Joyce and modernism.

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JOYCE, RACE AND
FINNEGANS WAKE

LEN PLATT
To my brother, Stan Platt (1946–2004)
Contents

List of abbreviations ........................................ page viii

1  Joyce, race and racism: introduction .......... 1
2  ‘No such race’: Finnegans Wake and the Aryan myth ........................................ 14
3  Celt, Teuton and Aryan ........................................ 42
4  ‘Our darling breed’: the Wake, social Darwinism and eugenics ............................... 69
5  Atlanta-Arya: theosophy, race and the Wake ........................................ 95
6  ‘Hung Chung Egglyfella’: staged race in Ulysses and the Wake ............................. 121
7  ‘And the prankqueen pulled a rosy one’: filth, fascism and the family ......................... 146
8  Race and reading: conclusion ....................... 164

Notes ........................................ 181

Index ........................................ 205
Abbreviations

Works by James Joyce

FW  *Finnegans Wake* (London: Faber and Faber, 1964). References to *Finnegans Wake* appear in the standard form. The first number refers to the page and the second to the line number.


Others


JJA  Michael Groden (gen. ed.), *The James Joyce Archive* (New York and London: Garland, 1977). In this referencing system ‘VI.B’ refers to the notebook series. The numbers following refer to volume and page number respectively.

MS: LCP  Manuscript – Lord Chamberlain’s Plays. These are unpublished playscripts held in the manuscript room of the British Library. Numbers following the title citation in endnotes refer to act and page number.

NBB  Vincent Deane, Daniel Ferrer and Geert Lernout (gen. eds.), The ‘Finnegans Wake’ Notebooks at Buffalo
(Turnout, Belgium: Brepols, 2001–). In the referencing system used for this and other editions of Joyce’s notebooks, ‘VI.B’ refers to the notebook series. The numbers following refer to volume and page number, with NBB using a letter for line number.