

QUEER FRIENDSHIP

Friendship in the classical world was celebrated as among the highest human achievements: Nothing was more likely to lead to the divine than looking for it in the eyes of a friend. In exploring the complexities of male–male relations beyond the simple labels of sexuality, *Queer Friendship* shows how love between men has a rich and varied history in English literature. The friend could offer a reflection of one's own worth and a celebration of a kind of mutuality that was not connected to family or home. These same-sex friendships are memorable because they give shape to the novels of which they are a part, and they question the assumption that the love between friends is different from the love between lovers. *Queer Friendship* explores English literary friendship in three ways: the elegiac, the erotic, and the platonic, by considering a myriad of works, including Sterne's *Tristram Shandy*, Tennyson's *In Memoriam A.H.H.*, and Dickens' *Great Expectations*.

GEORGE E. HAGGERTY is Distinguished Professor and Chair in the Department of English, University of California, Riverside.

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QUEER FRIENDSHIP

Male Intimacy in the English Literary Tradition

GEORGE E. HAGGERTY



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*For my husband Ed O'Bannon
and
in memory of Philip Brett*

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