Contents

List of Figures and Tables  ix
Acknowledgements  x
A Note on Conventions for the Titles of Lost Plays  xiii

Introduction  1
Why Do Plays Become Lost?  2
A Case Study: ‘Love’s Labour’s Won’  11
Where to from Here?  14
Lost Plays and Rubin’s Vase  20

1 Charting the Landscape of Loss  27
Lost Plays and Shakespeare’s Company  29
The Value of Lost Plays  36
The Composition of a Company’s Repertory: The Admiral’s Men  41

2 Early Shakespeare: 1594–1598  58
‘Beginning at Newington’: 1594  59
Moving to the Curtain: 1597–1598  70

3 Shakespeare at the Turn of the Century: 1599–1603  89
Love and War: ‘Owen Tudor’ and Henry V  91
Denmark without Shakespeare  95
Hamlet and ‘felmelanco’  104

4 Courting Controversy – Shakespeare and the King’s Men: 1604–1608  118
‘[T]he tragedie of Gowrie’  120
‘A Tragidye of The Spanishe Maz:’  129
The Blackfriars: 1608  137

5 Late Shakespeare: 1609–1613  150
Recycling Romance  153
Shakespeare and the King’s Men at Court: 1612–1613  160
What Was ‘Cardenio’?  166
‘Cardenio’ at Court: 1612–1613  175
## Contents

6 Loose Canons: The Lost Shakespeare Apocrypha
   'Henry I' and 'Henry II'  185
   'Duke Humphrey', with a Note on 'King Stephen' and 'Iphis and Ianthe'  187
   'Eurialus and Lucretia'  191

Conclusion  205

Index  208