

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	vii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	ix
Introduction	1
PART I: THE SUFFERING SELF	
1 Constructs of Suffering in Seventeenth-Century England	21
Epicurus, the Stoics and the Problem of Pain	21
Born to Suffer?	35
Rejoicing to Suffer	49
2 Suffering and Sexuality in Catholic Hagiography	61
First Steps to Sainthood: The Primacy and Efficacy of Suffering	61
Magdalena de Pazzi	68
Changing Attitudes towards Suffering in Post-Reformation Hagiography	75
3 Polemic, Pornography and Romanticism: The Subversion of Catholic Asceticism	89
Catholic Asceticism and Protestant Polemic, 1600–60	89
Sexual Flagellation	95
The ‘Self-Confessed Romantic and ... thoroughly Quixotic’ Saint Ignatius of Loyola	105
PART II: THE SUFFERING OF OTHERS	
4 Cruelty and Compassion	115
The Concept of Cruelty	115
Catholic Cruelty and the Historical Sources of Protestant Polemic	124
Compassion	128

5	The Spectacle of Suffering	143
	‘A Pleasant Spectacle’	143
	The Suffering of the Damned	154
	Reading Foxe	160

PART III: SUFFERING AND GENDER

6	The Sexual Politics of Suffering	167
	Suffering, Rape and the Status of Women	167
	The Feminization of the Male	177
	Misogyny and Cruelty	182
7	The Erotics of Suffering and Cruelty	189
	Suffering for Love	189
	The Pornography of Pain	194
	Pulchritude in Mary Wroth’s <i>Urania</i>	198
8	The Emergence of the Dominatrix	213
	Victrix Impudica	213
	Volusia	222
	The ‘Noble Victory’ of Saint Agnes	227

	<i>Bibliography of Works Cited</i>	237
	<i>Index</i>	265