Contents

Acknowledgments 9

The Blind Spot of an Old Dream of Symmetry 11

Woman, Science's Unknown 13

The Little Girl Is (Only) a Little Boy 25

Is Her End in Her Beginning? 34
An Unsuspected Love, 34. The Desire to Have a Child by the Mother, 34. The Father's Seduction: Law but Not Sex, 37. The "Reasons" Why a Girl Hates Her Mother and a Boy Goes on Loving His, 40. An Economy of Primal Desire That Cannot Be Represented, 42. One More Child, 44.

Another "Cause"—Castration 46

"Penis-Envy" 55
## Contents

**A Painful Way to Become a Woman**

**A Very Black Sexuality?**

**The Penis = the Father's Child**
The Primacy of Anal Erotism, 73. Those Party to a Certain Lease, 74. Woman Is/and Also Mother, 76. Forbidden Games, 77. The Hymen of Oedipus, Father and Son, 78.

**The Deferred Action of Castration**

**An Indispensable Wave of Passivity**

**Female Hom(m)osexuality**

**An Impracticable Sexual Relationship**

**"Woman Is a Woman as a Result of a Certain Lack of Characteristics"**

**Speculum**
Any Theory of the "Subject" Has Always Been Appropriated by the "Masculine" 133
*Korê*: Young Virgin, Pupil of the Eye 147

---

6
On the Index of Plato's Works: Woman 152
How to Conceive (of) a Girl 160
*Une Mère de Glace* 168
"... and if, taking the eye of a man recently dead . . ." 180
*La Mystérieque* 191
Paradox A Priori 203
The Eternal Irony of the Community 214
Volume-Fluidity 227

**PLATO'S Hystera**

The Stage Setup


The Dialogues


The Avoidance of (Masculine) Hysteria


The "Way Out" of the Cave


The Time Needed to Focus and Adjust the Vision

| Impossible to Turn Back (or Over), 283. Were It Not, Right Now, for a Sophistry Played with Doubles, 286. A Frozen Nature, 289. The Auto . . . Taken in by the *A-lētheia*, 291. Bastard or Legitimate Offspring? 293. |

The Father's Vision: Engendering with No History of Problems

A Form That Is Always the Same 303
The Passage Confusing Big and Little, and Vice Versa, 303. The Standard Itself/Himself, 304. Better to Revolve upon Oneself—But This Is Possible Only for God-the-Father, 304. The Mother, Happily, Does Not Remember, 307. A Source-mirror of All That Is, 308. The Analysis of That Projection Will Never Take (or Have Taken) Place, 310.

Completion of the Paideia 311

Life in Philosophy 319

Divine Knowledge 330

An Unarticulated/Inarticulate Go-Between: The Split between Sensible and Intelligible 339
A Failure of Relations between the Father and Mother, 339. A One-way Passage, 341. Compulsory Participation in the Attributes of the Type, 343. A Misprized Incest and an Unrealizable Incest, 343.

Return to the Name of the Father 346
The Impossible Regression toward the Mother, 346. A Competition the Philosopher Will Decline to Enter, 347. Two Modes of Repetition: Property and Proximity, 349. Better to Work the Earth on the Father’s Account Than to Return to It: Metaphor/Metonymy, 352. The Threat of Castration, 353.

“Woman’s” Jouissance 353
A Dead Cave Which Puts Representation Back into Play, 353. That Marvelously Solitary Pleasure of God, 356. A Diagonal Helps to Temper the Excessiveness of the One, 357. The Infinite of an Ideal Which Covers the Slit (of a) Void, 361. Losing Sight of “the Other,” 362. The Vengeance of Children Freed from Their Chains, 364.