

Contents

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction: The Great Beyond 1

- 1 Time and Eternity in Washington, D.C., NW 20011 8
 - 2 Mark Twain's Great American Death Trip 20
 - 3 The Lighthouse at Mosquito Inlet 36
 - 4 Gustav Mahler's *Auferstehung* 47
 - 5 Wittgenstein's War 57
 - 6 The Day Ernest Hemingway Died 69
 - 7 Virginia Woolf's Farewell to England and the English 77
 - 8 Rachmaninoff's *Dies Irae* 86
 - 9 This Way to the *Fuhrerbunker* 94
 - 10 Two Tramps and a Tree 108
 - 11 Uncle Sammler's Lousy Earth 118
 - 12 Luchino Visconti and the Passion of Gustav von Aschenbach 127
 - 13 Toni Morrison's Book of the Dead 136
 - 14 The Great Dying in Michael Cunningham's *The Hours* 144
 - 15 Against Annihilation in W. G. Sebald's *Austerlitz* 152
 - 16 Robert Macfarlane's Words for the World 162
- Notes on Sources and Further Reading 169