

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I owe a special debt of gratitude to my Guide Dr. P.B. Deshpande, Reader, Department of English, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, for his scholarly guidance with enriching views on the subject. He took great pains to go through the script and his insight and knowledge helped me in completing the dissertation.

I am sincerely grateful to Dame Muriel Spark and Miss Penelope Jardine for sending me invaluable articles and critical materials so promptly from their personal collections.

I warmly thank Ranjan who inspired me, gave me confidence and helped me throughout the work. It is because of him that I have enjoyed what at first looked like an awesome task. I must also express my thanks to Rahul, Rana, Aditya and Aneesh for helping me in their own special way. This work could not have been possible without their cooperation.

I also owe my gratitude to Dr. (Mrs.) L.R. Moktali, Department of English, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, for her help in regard to my work. I owe special acknowledgement and thanks to Shri R.L. Vasudeo for his enormous help in documenting this work.

In addition, I would like to thank the librarians of Balasaheb Khardekar Library, Shivaji University, Kolhapur; D.D. Shinde Sarkar College, Kolhapur, and British Council Library, Bombay, for providing both the relevant books and useful information.

-----xx-----

Usanyal