Addressing the critical interplay between gender, history, and the novel, Gender, History, and the Novel: Desire and Domestic Fiction after Thirty Years is a special issue of Modern Language Quarterly, edited by Jonathan Arac. This collection delves into the evolution and significance of desire and domestic fiction, offering a range of essays by esteemed scholars. The introduction by Jonathan Arac sets the stage, discussing the changes and continuities in the field over three decades. Each essay thereafter explores various aspects of these themes, from the personal and social contracts in eighteenth-century novels to the role of secrets in narrative structures. The issue concludes with an afterword that reflects on the influence of Foucault on the study of novels and their historical contexts. This comprehensive volume provides a rich exploration of the interrelations between gender, history, and the novel, offering insights for both scholars and students. The contents include:

**Essays**
- Jonathan Arac  ■  Introduction: Desire and Domestic Fiction after Thirty Years  1
- Rachel Ablow  ■  Taking Responsibility in Desire and Domestic Fiction  7
- Ian Duncan  ■  Against the Bildungsroman  13
- Deidre Lynch  ■  Social, Sexual, and Other Contracts in Eighteenth-Century Novels  21
- Jesse Rosenthal  ■  Keeping Secrets  29
- Nancy Armstrong  ■  Afterword: Waiting for Foucault  37

**General Essays**
- Michelle M. Dowd  ■  Judith Shakespeare’s Brother  51
- Zsolt Komáromy  ■  Contradictions as Patterns in Literary History: Skepticism, Common Sense, and the Conversational Idiom of Churchill and Cowper  75

**Reviews**

Vadim Shneyder  ■  Jillian Porter, *Economies of Feeling: Russian Literature under Nicholas I*  106

Vera M. Kutzinski  ■  Harris Feinsod, *The Poetry of the Americas: From Good Neighbors to Countercultures*  109