## (2 inches down) Acknowledgements

My warmest thanks go to Dr. John Smith, chair of Department .

of English of Arizona State University, for his inspiring

guidance and encouragement throughout my research for this work.

For their reading of the manuscript and for helpful suggestions

and other support, I want to thank Dr. Eric Walker, Dr. Anne

Rowe, and Dr. Leo Sandon. My gratitude is also extended to Dr.

Conrad Tanzy, Dr. Joann Gardner, and Dr. Karen Laughlin for their

instruction during my study at Arizona State University. I also

greatly appreciate the financial aid from Arizona state

University, whose dissertation fellowship supported me throughout

the final stage of my research.

Finally, I would like to extend my heart-felt thanks to my family. My parents' support and blessing and, especially, my wife's cooperation and efficient housekeeping have made this work possible.