CONTENTS

Introduction xi

PART ONE: FOUNDATIONS AND FAULT LINES

1 Her Father’s Daughter 3

2 The Importance of Being Marie-Aurore de Saxe 10

3 Sophie Victorious 26

4 Spanish Sojourn 37

5 Sophie’s Choice 53

PART TWO: REVELATIONS AND CONFESSIONS

6 Enigma of the Sphinx 65

7 Convent and Conversion 72

8 Coming of Age 82

9 Pater Semper Incertus Est 91
## CONTENTS

### PART THREE: MARRIAGE, MOTHERHOOD, AND MISGIVINGS

10 Marriage and Motherhood  101

11 Passion in the Pyrenees  111

12 Ready, Set, Go  118

13 “Our Motto Is Freedom”  126

14 George Sand Is Born  141

### PART FOUR: THE DAUGHTER’S DEMISE

15 A Daughter Is Born  151

16 The Author and the Actress  160

17 Sons and Lovers  172

18 Mother Love  191

19 Liaison Dangereuse  202

20 Broken Bonds: Solange and Chopin  215

21 Collateral Damage and Lucrèzia Floriani  228

### PART FIVE: WAR AND PEACE

22 Revolution and Reverberations  239

23 Coming to Writing  258

24 Confession of a Young Girl  273

25 The Art of Loving  285

Epilogue  311
Notes 317
Select Bibliography 353
Acknowledgments 361
Index 363