Contents

Acknowledgments *page* ix

Introduction: Toward Post-Terrorism? 1
Mythic Violence and Enchanted Solidarity 7
Splintered Violence and Disenchanted Solidarity 14
Unframing the Insurgent: Violence at the Limits of Literary Criticism 19
Narrating Insurgency: World, Periphery and the Vernacular 28
Plan of the Book 35

1 Precarious Riches: Oil, Insurgency, and Violence in Nigerian Literature 47
The Violent Precariat 47
Absent Presences in Michael Peel's *A Swamp Full of Dollars* 51
Present Absences in Helon Habila's *Oil on Water* 60
Subterranean Violence: Present Absences of Oil Unrest in Tony Nwaka's *Lords of the Creek* 68
Oil, Oil Everywhere, Nor Any Drop to Fry: Routine Violence in Christie Watson's *Tiny Sunbirds Far Away* 75

2 Intimate Violence: Rebels, Heroes, and Insurgent Sovereignties in Burmese Anglophone Literature 89
The Elusive Terrorist: Tropes, Figures, and the Intimacy of Violence 89
Intimacy and Militancy in *From the Land of Green Ghosts* and *Road to Rangoon* 97
Intimate Sovereignty? Affective In/Justice in Wendy Law-Yone's *Irrawaddy Tango* 110
From Intimate Violence to Insurgent Sovereignty: Aung San Suu Kyi's *Freedom from Fear* and Pascal Khoo Thwe's *From the Land of Green Ghosts* 117

3 Violent Solidarities: Narrating the Maoist Insurgency in India 135
Solidarity, Sovereignty, and Divine Violence in Three Naxalite Novels 140

Downloaded from https://www.cambridge.org/core. UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA METROPOLITANA, on 15 Nov 2026 at 17:23:54, subject to the Cambridge Core terms of use, available at https://www.cambridge.org/core/terms. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009443869

(Dis)enchanted Solidarity and Useless Suffering 143
Divine Violence and Useful Suffering 153
Affects, Justice, and Solidarities in Arundhati Roy's *Walking with the Comrades* and Sudeep Chakravarti's *Red Sun: Travels in a Naxalite Country* 160

4 Violent Worlds: Vernacular Agency in Middle Eastern Literature 182
Of the Sublime, Divine, Secular, and the Vernacular 188
Violence and the Vernacular 192
Ennobling the Dead: Thanatopolitics in *The Corpse Washer* 199
Globe versus World: Necropolitics and Thanatopolitics in *The City Always Wins* 208

Epilogue: The Moral Burden of the Insurgent 225

Index 240

Downloaded from https://www.cambridge.org/core. UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA METROPOLITANA, on 15 Nov 2026 at 17:23:54, subject to the Cambridge Core terms of use, available at https://www.cambridge.org/core/terms. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009443869