The Rhetoric of Fictionality

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My attempts to write this book began long, long ago, when I was still the Keasbey Research Fellow at Selwyn College, Cambridge. It’s been a slow process, but not a painful one thanks in large part to the interest and support of the many people who have become involved, in one way or another, along the way. The first I’d like to mention, from those early days, is Manuela Tecușan, whose enthusiasm always made me smile. Soon afterwards my colleagues at the University of York became important, both for their contributions to the supportive research environment in which I’ve worked ever since, and for their indulgence of my occasional contributions to it. In particular, I’m grateful to Jacques Berthoud, without whom this work would probably have never seen the light of day. I am hugely indebted to him for his belief in the merit of my work and his instrumental support of my career (in fact, his creation of the possibility of my career). I’d also like to thank Stephen Minta and Derek Attridge, both of whom have provided invaluable advice and encouragement.

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