

# Double-Wolf

## Brian Castro

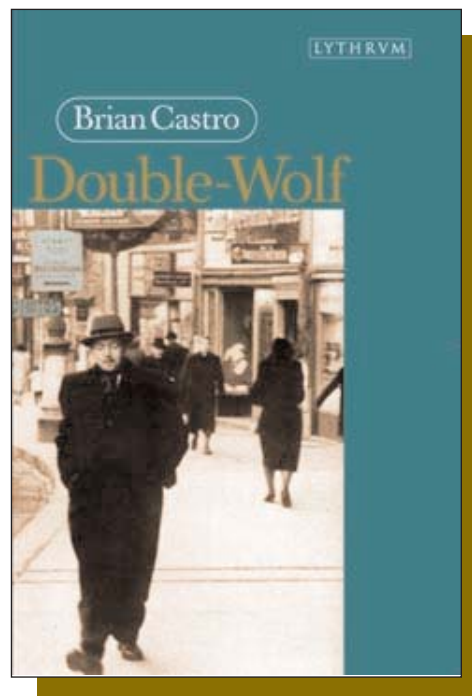
"*Double-Wolf* explores the world of Freud and of the pilgrims that made their way to him with rare vigour, verve, sympathy and with an essentially sane and civilised detachment. From the perspective of that stuffy consulting-room with its cigar-sucking oracle, the novel ranges out, embracing such diverse phenomena as pre-revolutionary Russia and the shabby boarding houses of Katoomba in the 1970s, to chart the history of our terrible century. I can think of no writer – now that Patrick White is no longer with us – who could negotiate the hazards of this tale with such aplomb and such graceful erudition. The structure is almost flawless.

*Double-Wolf* says many important and disturbing things about the nature of our culture and its roots. It reveals how – whether we approve or not – our language, our consciousness and the myths that form our daily lives are embedded in a world far away. Castro has the marvellous ability to recreate that world. But he always surveys it from the perspective of our own. This is a wonderful book."

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"a grand arabesque through time and space ... At once exact and freewheeling in its explorations, this is a remarkable novel, with an intellectual generosity I find exceptional."

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