CONTENTS

	List of Illustrations	vii
	Acknowledgments	ix
	Introduction	1
1.	Constructing the Shopgirl: The Politics of Everyday Life	19
2.	Figuring the Female Body: Labor, Sex, and Desire in the Department Store	54
3.	The Failures of the Romance: Boredom and the Production of Consuming Desires	97
4.	Imagining Alternatives to the Romance: Absorption and Distraction as Modes of Reading	126
5.	Distracted Pleasures: Gender, Leisure, and Consuming in Public	170
	Conclusion	194
	Notes	201
	Bibliography	247
	Index	273