

PARTING WAYS
Jewishness and the Critique of Zionism

JUDITH BUTLER

Columbia University Press
New York

Contents

Acknowledgments vii

Abbreviations ix

Introduction 1

Self-Departure, Exile, and the Critique of Zionism

1. Impossible, Necessary Task 28

Said, Levinas, and the Ethical Demand

2. Unable to Kill 54

Levinas Contra Levinas

3. Walter Benjamin and the Critique of Violence 69

4. Flashing Up 99

Benjamin's Messianic Politics

5. Is Judaism Zionism? 114

Or, Arendt and the Critique of the Nation-State

6. Quandaries of the Plural 151

Cohabitation and Sovereignty in Arendt

7. Primo Levi for the Present 181

8. "What Shall We Do Without Exile?" 205

Said and Darwish Address the Future

Notes 225

Index 243