## **Contents**

Illustrations	ix	
Acknowledgments		xi

### Introduction 3

#### PART ONE-GRETHE

- 1 In Brunswick, near Hannover City 17
- 2 Anatomy of a Crime 33
- 3 A Girl, purportedly a Maiden 44
- 4 Family Values 60
- 5 Common Repute—Women and Neighbors 74
- 6 Corpus Delicti 86
- 7 Knowledgeable Women—The Midwives' Tale 99
- 8 Legal Maneuvering and the Question of Torture 111
- 9 Terror, Torture, and Grethe Schmidt 123

## PART TWO-JUSTUS

- 10 Case for a Defense 139
- 11 Not even a Sow—The Case for Grethe 149
- 12 The Thick Wilderness of Lies 161
- 13 The Way to a Confession 173
- 14 "Even to the Devil Himself" 190

# Conclusion—Many Vigorous Enemies 204

Notes 213
Bibliography 251
Index 263

