## CONTENTS

*Preface*  ix  
*Acknowledgments*  xv  
*A Note on Transliteration and Translation*  xvii  

**ONE**  
The Parameters of Village Prose  3  

**TWO**  
The Question of Genre  13  

**THREE**  
The Poetics of Village Prose  29  

**FOUR**  
Time, Backward!  48  

**FIVE**  
Borrowed Time: Metaphors for Loss in Village Prose  64  

**SIX**  
The Village Prose Writers and Their Critics  81  

**SEVEN**  
Two Detectives in Search of Village Prose  99  

**EIGHT**  
Rewriting and Rereading Literary History  113  

**Appendix I**  
“Kondyr,” by Aleksei Leonov  129  

**Appendix II**  
“Kondyr”: A Parametric Analysis  140  

*Notes*  149  
*Index*  189