Contents

Prologue ix

- 1. Political Theory as Solace 1
- 2. Machiavelli's *Prince*: The Political Actor as Divine Instrument 21
- 3. Behold *Leviathan!*: The Systematic Solace of Thomas Hobbes 51
- Rousseau's Social Contract: Politics as an Unnatural Act 93
- 5. Political Theory Without Solace 126

Epilogue 161