

Contents

Acknowledgments	<i>page ix</i>
Preface	
Awash in Chaos	xi
INTRODUCTION	
The New Science Metaphor and Modern Drama: A Brief History of Western Thought	1
Preliminary Thoughts on Contemporary Science	7
Where Science and Theatre Converge: A Sample and a Summary	11
1	
Quantum Physics as Metaphor: Elliptical Beginnings of the New Paradigm	18
Philosophical Antecedents to Quantum Mechanical Conclusions	19
Theatrical Parallels	23
The Quantum Leap	26
Finding a Nexus: Quantum Physics and Contemporary Theatre	33
The New Science Metaphor	39
Stoppard's <i>Hapgood</i> : Double Agency and Quantum Personalities	41
Willy Loman's Quantum Personality, and Others	50

viii**Contents****2****Chaos and Theatre: Sensitive Dependence on Initial Conditions** 55

A Scientific Digression 64

The Chaos Model Applied: An Early Crack in the Chimney of Causality 75

Stoppard's *Arcadia*: Studying the Humanity of Chaos 85**3****Intuitive Intersections: American Drama Confronts Orderly Disorder** 104

Rabe and Shepard Reconsidered 112

Marsha Norman's Conceptual Challenge in *'night, Mother* 128**4****Theatre of Chaos, Past and Future** 139*Shakespeare Our Contemporary*: Revisiting Kott 140

The Clinamen, Plague, Cruelty, Alienation, and Chaos 146

Back to the Future: Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* 156

Theatre of Chaos and the End of Humanism 162

The Lingering Question of First Cause 163

CONCLUSION**Chaos and Cultural Futures** 166**Notes** 172**Bibliography** 180**Index** 185