

CONTENTS

| | | |
|---|-------------|-----|
| <i>Preface</i> | <i>page</i> | vii |
| Introduction: For and Against Hope | | i |
| 1 The Limits of Hope in the Ancient World | | 29 |
| Hesiod and Aeschylus: Prometheus, Pandora, and the Work of Hope | | 31 |
| Pindar, Thucydides, and the Fragility of Good Hope | | 44 |
| Cyclical Revolution and Ruler Hope | | 50 |
| Beyond Hope and Fear: The Philosophic Tradition | | 59 |
| 2 Eternal Hope: The Christian Vision | | 72 |
| Hope for the Poor | | 75 |
| St. Paul and St. Augustine on Hope, Faith, Love, and Prayer | | 80 |
| Gregory of Nyssa's Eternal Hope | | 86 |
| The Thomist Tradition on Hope and Despair | | 90 |
| A Hope for Virgil? | | 95 |
| <i>Purgatorio</i> : The Thread of Green | | 102 |
| <i>Paradiso</i> : Surprising Prayers, Certain Expectation, and the Beatific Vision | | 107 |
| 3 The Three Hopes of Humanism: Sacred, Profane, and Political | | 114 |
| Cowley and Crashaw: The Contest "On Hope" | | 116 |
| Milton: Presumptuous Hope, Aspirational Despair | | 119 |
| Effective Passions and Social Order: Hobbes to Mandeville | | 129 |

 Contents

| | | |
|---|---|-----|
| | Pope's Spring of Hope | 137 |
| | Johnson on Hope and the Empty Present | 142 |
| | Johnson on Hope and Fear, Prayer and Faith | 148 |
| | Hope for the Poor and Enslaved | 153 |
| 4 | Something Evermore About to Be: Hope in the Romantic Era | 167 |
| | Wordsworth (and Others) on Illicit Hopes and Eternal Progress | 170 |
| | Goethe's <i>Faust</i> : Striving for Its Own Sake | 186 |
| | Shelley: Hope beyond Hope | 198 |
| 5 | Later Nineteenth-Century Responses to Romantic Hope | 219 |
| | John Stuart Mill and Simple Hope | 220 |
| | George Eliot and the Need of Something Hidden | 224 |
| | Emily Dickinson: Hope without Hope | 230 |
| | Dostoevsky: Suicide and Hope | 238 |
| | Nietzsche: False Hopes vs. "The Highest Hope" | 255 |
| 6 | Modernism: Repetition, Epiphany, Waiting | 265 |
| | Finding Out What One Hoped For: Woolf's <i>To the Lighthouse</i> | 268 |
| | Waiting (I): Kafka's <i>The Castle</i> | 277 |
| | Without Hope or Suicide: Camus' <i>Myth of Sisyphus</i> and <i>The Plague</i> | 285 |
| | A Dream Deferred: <i>Native Son</i> , <i>A Street in Bronzeville</i> , <i>Invisible Man</i> | 295 |
| | Waiting (II): <i>Waiting for Godot</i> | 317 |
| | <i>Notes</i> | 325 |
| | <i>Acknowledgments</i> | 411 |
| | <i>Index</i> | 414 |