

INTRODUCTION	3
--------------	---

GOOD AND BAD

1. THOMAS PAIN: THE ACTUARIAL RADICAL	9
2. THE CHARMER	20
3. HOLY LAUD HERETIC	25
4. CREON'S THINK TANK: THE MIND OF CONOR CRUISE O'BRIEN	47
5. READING TO BORGES	66
6. THE CHORUS AND CASSANDRA	70
7. COMRADE ORWELL	95

BLUNT INSTRUMENTS

1. CAMUS: UN COPAIN	115
2. BRIDESHEAD REVISITED	119
3. DECIMATION: THE TENTH MAN	126
4. POOR DEAR CYRIL	130
5. I DARE SAY	133
6. THE MOUTH OF FOOT	136
7. BORN-AGAIN CONFORMIST	142
8. THE TROUBLE WITH HENRY	152
9. FALSE START	164
10. EARACHE	170
11. SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY	173
12. SAME, ONLY MORE SO	177
13. BETTER OFF WITHOUT	180
14. FROM HERE TO DEMOCRACY	185
15. UMBERTO ECO	189
16. BLUNT INSTRUMENTS	194
17. THE BLOOD NEVER DRIES	198
18. STYLE SECTION	200
19. MUGGED BY REALITY	204

DATELINES

1. NICARAGUA LIBRE	211
2. THE CATHOUSE AND THE CROSS	224
3. HOBBS IN THE LEVANT	238
4. DEAD MEN ON LEAVE	242
5. A MORNING WITH RABBI KAHANE	245
6. GOING HOME WITH KIM DAE JUNG	248
7. LIBERTÉ À LA POLONAISE	257
8. CONVERSATION WITH DJILAS	261
9. A SENSE OF MISSION: THE RAJ QUARTET	264

IN THE ERA OF GOOD FEELINGS

1. LIES, ALL LIES	287
2. THE MEESE FACTOR	290
3. THE FIDDLER'S ELBOW	295
4. THE OLD BOY	298
5. AGAINST THE CONTRAS	302
6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST	304
7. DOING GOOD: THE NEOLIBERALS	307
8. THE PRESIDENT	310
9. KENNEDY LIES	314
10. PERCEPTIONS AND SIGNALS	317
11. FINDING IT FUNNY	321
12. REAGON THE DEMOCRAT	324
13. DESTRUCTIVE ENGAGEMENT	327
14. KENNEDY'S BEDROOM	331
15. USELESS IDIOTS	335
16. BITTER FRUIT	338
17. CHICKEN HAWKS	341
18. STANDING TALL	344
19. SKIN ON THE TEETH	349
20. LOONY TUNES	352
21. CASTING BREAD ON THE SENATORS	356
22. WATERGATE REVISITED: THE GREEK CONNECTION	360
23. WANTON ACTS OF USAGE	373
24. HURRICANE ROBERTSON	383
25. WITH A LITTLE LUCK	386
26. "A BODYGUARD OF LIES"	389
27. REAGAN'S DECEMBER	392
28. REALITY TIME	396
29. THE ERA OF GOOD FEELINGS	401
30. BLABSCAM	404
31. FAULTY TOWER	408
32. MIAMI VICE	410
33. ORIGINAL SIN	414
34. A FEW QUESTIONS	417
35. TRIUMPH OF THE WILL	420
36. THE KILLING BOTTLE	423
37. THE TOLLING BELL	426
38. DEAR OSCAR	430

PREPARED FOR THE WORST

1. ON NOT KNOWING THE HALF OF IT: HOMAGE TO TELEGRAPHIST JACOBS	435
ABOUT THE AUTHOR	451