

# Contents

Introduction 3

PART I The Rise 15

1. The Disruptive Founder 17
2. Radio Dreams 33
3. Mr. Vail Is a Big Man 45
4. The Time Is Not Ripe for Feature Films 61
5. Centralize All Radio Activities 74
6. The Paramount Ideal 86

PART II Beneath the All-Seeing Eye 99

7. The Foreign Attachment 101
8. The Legion of Decency 115
9. FM Radio 125
10. We Now Add Sight to Sound 136

PART III The Rebels, the Challengers, and the Fall 157

11. The Right Kind of Breakup 159
12. The Radicalism of the Internet Revolution 168
13. Nixon's Cable 176
14. Broken Bell 187
15. Esperanto for Machines 196

PART IV Reborn Without a Soul 205

16 · Turner Does Television 207

17 · Mass Production of the Spirit 217

18 · The Return of AT&T 238

PART V The Internet Against Everyone 255

19 · A Surprising Wreck 257

20 · Father and Son 269

21 · The Separations Principle 299

*Acknowledgments* 321

*Notes* 323

*Index* 355