
CONTENTS

Acknowledgments ix

Key to Abbreviations and Textual Notes xi

PREFACE

Revaluating Modernity: September 11, the “Death Event,”
and the Word *Evil* xiii

INTRODUCTION

Theatre and Evil in the Shadow of the “Death Event” 1

PART ONE

Evil in Twentieth-Century Theatre

CHAPTER ONE

Eschatology and the Absurd 31

CHAPTER TWO

The Gnostic Caesar: Radical Eschatology in
Albert Camus’s *Caligula* 49

CHAPTER THREE

Messianism and the Age of Senility: Perpetual Expectation in
Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot* 88

EPILOGUE

The Two “Nothings” of *Caligula* and *Waiting for Godot* 133

PART TWO
Evil in Renaissance Theatre

CHAPTER FOUR
Expediency and the Machiavel 143

CHAPTER FIVE
Evil and Virtue in *Mandragola* 160

CHAPTER SIX
The “Fantastical Duke of Dark Corners”:
Shakespeare’s *Measure for Measure* 203

EPILOGUE
Machiavellianism and Providence 251

CONCLUSION
Modern Theatre and the Tragic Vision 259

Notes 277

Bibliography 327

Index 339