

# Contents

<i>A Note on the Text</i>	xi
<b>Introduction</b>	1
1. Felton and Buckingham Before the Letter	1
2. Definition	6
3. Critical Terrorism Studies	23
4. The Grammar of Motives	30
5. The Way Forward	34
<b>1. Terrorism Before the Letter</b>	39
1. The Stories	39
2. History and Its Texts	49
3. Political Thought and the Political Imagination	60
Appendix. A Chronology of Major Events and Literary Works	66
<b>2. Act</b>	71
1. Killing Noe Murder	71
2. The Heroic Effort	74
3. <i>Accidents Misérables</i>	80
4. Against Common Sense: The Message and Its Disambiguation	86
5. Origins	94
<b>3. Agents</b>	100
1. Of Character	100
2. The Agon	105
3. Distribution	112
4. The Individual: Against Ideology	117
5. Ravailac the Scapegoat	122
<b>4. Scene</b>	133
1. Saint Médard	133
2. Thinking About the Scene	136
3. The 'Massacre'	138
4. <i>Gorboduc</i>	140
5. The State of the Gunpowder Plot	142
6. Saint Bartholomew	146
7. D'Aubigné's <i>Tragiques</i>	156
8. The Meaning of Massacre	161

<b>5. Agency</b>	164
1. The Semiotic Circuit	164
2. Instrumentality	168
3. Symbolic Exchange	171
4. Politics and Religion	180
5. The Public Sphere	182
6. The Circuit of Justice	188
<b>6. Purpose</b>	193
1. The Ends of All Things	193
2. The Demands of Violence	201
3. Samson Transcendent	208
4. Samson the Parable	214
5. Richard Rogers and the End of the Wicked	218
<b>A Brief Conclusion</b>	223
<i>Bibliography</i>	229
<i>Index</i>	263