

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	vii
CHAPTER	
I. Backgrounds and Beginnings	3
II. Toward a Poetic Career	20
III. Early Distinction	41
IV. Premier Dramatist of the Age	67
V. The Epic Dream	93
VI. Critical Theories and Tragedy	116
VII. The Angry World	131
VIII. Political Commitment	149
IX. Attacks and Counterattacks	165
X. Religious Incertitude	186
XI. Variety of Ways	201
XII. Convert to Rome	210
XIII. For Church and King	222
XIV. "Ruin" and Rehabilitation	239
XV. The Struggle for Solvency	252
XVI. The Great Translation: <i>Virgil</i>	271
XVII. Twilight of Honors	288
XVIII. The Last Harmony	304
Epilogue	319
<i>Appendices</i>	321
<i>Notes</i>	333
<i>Index</i>	371