## Contents

| Acknowledgments   | ix   |
|---|--|
| Introduction  | 1  |
| Part I. Aristophanes' Laughter (The Clouds)   | 7  |
| Introduction Strepsiades' Problem Strepsiades' Introduction to the Thinkery The <i>Parabasis</i> : The Clouds' Address to the Audience Socrates' Instruction of Strepsiades The Contest Presented before Phidippides Its Aftermath The Standpoint of Comedy | 7<br>8<br>10<br>15<br>18<br>19<br>22<br>25 |
| Part II. Political Philosophy: Plato's Response (The Republic)  | 29   |
| Introduction  | 29   |
| Chapter 1. Plato's Introduction to Political Philosophy (Book I of the <i>Republic</i> )  | 35   |
| Introduction The Setting of the Dialogue Socrates' Meeting with Cephalus  | 35<br>37<br>40                             |
| Socrates' and Polemarchus' Search for a Definition of Justice   | 43   |

| Socrates' Quarrel with Thrasymachus The Task of Political Philosophy      | 48<br>53 |  |  |
|---|----------|--|--|
|   |          |  |  |
| Chapter 2. Justice in the City and the Soul (Books II–IV of the Republic) | 57       |  |  |
| Introduction  | 57       |  |  |
| Glaucon and Adeimantus  |          |  |  |
| The City of Pigs and Its Deficiencies                                     | 66       |  |  |
| The Nature of the Guardians   | 69       |  |  |
| The Guardians' Education in Music: The Public Tales                       | 73       |  |  |
| The Guardians' Education in Music: Further                                |          |  |  |
| Considerations  | 78       |  |  |
| The Gymnastic Education of the Guardians                                  | 81       |  |  |
| The Unity of the City: Its Noble Lie and Communism                        |          |  |  |
| Property  | 84       |  |  |
| Locating Justice in the City  | 88       |  |  |
| Drawing a Parallel to the Soul  | 91       |  |  |
| The Republic's Defense of Justice and Aristophanes' Clouds                | 95       |  |  |
| Cionas  | 7.)      |  |  |
| Chapter 3. Communism and Philosophy                                       |          |  |  |
| (Books V–VII of the Republic)   | 99       |  |  |
| Introduction  | 99       |  |  |
| Socrates' Reluctance to Speak   | 101      |  |  |
| Common Natures, Common Jobs   | 103      |  |  |
| Communism of Women and Children   | 106      |  |  |
| The Philosopher-Kings   | 109      |  |  |
| The Dangers of Politics   | 122      |  |  |
|   |          |  |  |
| Chapter 4. A Return to the Socratic Perspective                           |          |  |  |
| (Books VIII–X of the Republic)  | 125      |  |  |
| Introduction  | 125      |  |  |
| The Degeneration of Regimes and Human Beings                              | 127      |  |  |
| The Contest between Justice and Injustice                                 | 133      |  |  |
| Socrates' New Criticism of Poetry   | 138      |  |  |
| Poetry and the Reconciliation of the Republic's                           |          |  |  |
| Dichotomies   | 143      |  |  |
| The Unresolved Quarrel between Aristophanes                               |          |  |  |
| and Plato   | 147      |  |  |

|   | Contents   | vii                                    |
|---|--|--|
| Part III.   | Political Science: Aristotle's Achievement (Book II of the <i>Politics</i> ) | 153                                    |
| Introduction Aristotle's Criticism of Socrates and Plato The Other Regimes in Speech The Regimes in Deed The List of Legislators Aristotle's Political Science as a Response to Plato |  | 153<br>156<br>164<br>169<br>172<br>175 |
| Afterwor  | d. Ancients and Moderns: Another Debate                                      | 181                                    |
| Notes   |  | 189                                    |
| Selected  | Bibliography   | 231                                    |
| Index   |  |  |