CONTENTS

Introduction by Judith Butler vii
Acknowledgments xxv
Translator’s Preface xxvii
Foreword cxiii

PART ONE: WRITING BEFORE THE LETTER

Exergue 3

1 The End of the Book and the Beginning of Writing 6
The Program 7
The Signifier and Truth 11
The Written Being/The Being Written 19

2 Linguistics and Grammatology 29
The Outside and the Inside 32
The Outside \( \times \) the Inside 47
The Hinge [La Brisure] 71

3 Of Grammatology as a Positive Science 80
Algebra: Arcanum and Transparence 81
Science and the Name of Man 88
The Rebus and the Complicity of Origins 94

PART TWO: NATURE, CULTURE, WRITING

Introduction to the “Epoch of Rousseau” 105

1 The Violence of the Letter: From Lévi-Strauss to Rousseau 109
The Battle of Proper Names 115
Writing and Man’s Exploitation by Man 128
2 “... That Dangerous Supplement ...” 153
   From/Of Blindness to the Supplement 156
   The Chain of Supplements 166
   The Exorbitant, Question of Method 171

3 Genesis and Structure of the Essay on the Origin of Languages 179
   I. The Place of the Essay 179
      Writing, Political Evil, and Linguistic Evil 182
      The Present Debate: The Economy of Pity 186
      The Initial Debate and the Composition of the Essay 208
   II. Imitation 212
      The Interval and the Supplement 212
      The Engraving and the Ambiguities of Formalism 217
      The Turn of Writing 235
   III. Articulation 250
      “That Movement of the Wand ...” 250
      The Inscription of the Origin 264
      The Neume 269
      That “Simple Movement of the Finger.” Writing and the Prohibition of Incest 278

4 From/Of the Supplement to the Source: The Theory of Writing 293
   The Originary Metaphor 294
   The History and System of Scripts 305
   The Alphabet and Absolute Representation 321
   The Theorem and the Theater 329
   The Supplement of (at) the Origin 341

   Afterword, by Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak 345

   Notes 369
   Index 429