

## CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	XIII
PROLOGUE	1
18 DECEMBER 2011, A DARK COLD DAY	9
BORN WITH A SILVER SPOON	15
PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A VERY YOUNG MAN	25
THE SILVER WIND	33
GOOD SOLDIER HAVEL	43
OLGA	51
THE APPRENTICE	59
THE GARDEN PARTY	65
THE SIXTIES	77
A PRIVATE SCHOOL OF POLITICS	85
THE MEMORANDUM	91

THE GATHERING STORM	97
SCOUNDREL TIMES	115
MOUNTAIN HOTEL	127
ROLL OUT THE BARRELS	139
THE BEGGAR'S OPERA	147
IT'S ONLY ROCK 'N' ROLL	159
THE CHARTER	169
THE MISTAKE	185
THE GREENGROCER REVOLT	195
THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK	207
THE TRIAL	213
DEAR OLGA	219
FREE AT LAST	243
THE PRAISE OF FOLLY	263
THE BATTLE FOR WENCESLAS SQUARE	277
THAT VELVET THING	287
THE FOG OF REVOLUTION	301
THE ROAD TO THE CASTLE	313
THE BAG OF FLEAS	321
THE PRESIDENT OF ROCK 'N' ROLL	331

FIRST WE TAKE MANHATTAN	353
THEN WE'LL TAKE THE KREMLIN	361
THE INNOCENTS ABROAD	371
MAKING THE FISH	389
THE END OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA	399
WAITING AS A STATE OF HOPE	419
THE BONFIRE OF SCRUPLES	425
IN SEARCH OF ALLIES	433
BACK TO EUROPE	447
THE YIN AND THE YANG	453
BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH	459
THE UGLY MOOD	471
FAREWELL TO ARMS	483
PAROLED	497
LEAVING	509
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	519
BIBLIOGRAPHY	521
INDEX	529
ABOUT THE AUTHOR	543