Contents

Preface xi
Note on References and List of Abbreviations xvii

Coordinates of a Conversation 1

CHAPTER ONE. Mutual Introductions 23
  Similarities and Affinities 24
  Rigor 26
  Method 28
  Insight 32

CHAPTER TWO. Purposes and Ends 40
  Activity and Purpose 42
  Purpose and Responsibility 46
  . . . and the World 48
  End 49
  Eternity 51
  Spinoza’s Body 55
  Life 57
  Nothing 59
  Silence 61

CHAPTER THREE. Grammar 63
  Not My Purpose . . . 63
  History and the History of Philosophy 65
  The History of Philosophy and Philosophy 66
  Philosophy and the History of Science 68

vii
The History of Science, Language, and Philosophy Again  71
Grammar and Paradigm Change  73
From Grammar to Logic and Back  77
Teacher and Student  80
Wittgenstein’s Body  84
Telling Nonsense  86

CHAPTER FOUR. Strategies  88
Spinoza’s Strategy: First Round  88
Wittgenstein’s Position  89
Thinking of Strategy  90
My Strategy  92
The Strategy of the Tractatus: Opening Moves  97
Working from Within  100
The First Movement  102
Classifying Propositions  107
Performing Futility  110

CHAPTER FIVE. Organizing Content  113
Plans  114
Structures  121
Beginnings  125
Matching Constraints  130

CHAPTER SIX. Metaphysics  137
Substance I  139
Spinoza’s Grammar  142
Spinoza’s Strategy: Second Round  145
Epistemology I  151
Language  155
Substance II  159
Bodies  165
Afterlife  168
Substance III  170

CHAPTER SEVEN. Matching Content  174
Spinoza’s Attributes  174
Psychoanalysis  177
Historical Materialism  181
Scientific Perspectives versus Logical Manifolds  183
Ideas versus Thoughts; Extended Modes versus Facts  185
Epistemology II  188
CHAPTER EIGHT. Matching Form  194
   Possible Facts versus Possible Extended Modes  194
   Natural Space versus Logical Space  197
   Order and Connection versus Form and Structure  200
   The Metaphysical Subject  202
   Fractals  204
   Natural History  209
   Physics  214
   Natural Necessity versus Logical Possibility  219
   Logic in God, Logic of God  225

Exodus: Toward History and Its Surprises  231

Notes  253
References  275
Index  285