Contents

Acknowledgments ix
Foreword by Stanley Cavell xiii

1 In Search of Light in Democracy and Education: Deweyan Growth in an Age of Nihilism 1
2 Dewey between Hegel and Darwin 17
3 Emerson’s Voice: Dewey beyond Hegel and Darwin 36
4 Emersonian Moral Perfectionism: Gaining from the Closeness between Dewey and Emerson 50
5 Dewey’s Emersonian View of Ends 69
6 Growth and the Social Reconstruction of Criteria: Gaining from the Distance between Dewey and Emerson 81
7 The Gleam of Light: Reconstruction toward Holistic Growth 99
8 The Gleam of Light Lost: Transcending the Tragic with Dewey after Emerson 120
9 The Rekindling of the Gleam of Light: Toward Perfectionist Education 139

Notes 163
Bibliography 195
Index 205