

## *Contents*

List of Illustrations	vii
Preface	ix
Acknowledgements	xiv
List of People who Appear in this Book	xv
List of Abbreviations	xix
Glossary of Arabic Terms	xxii
Prologue	1
Chapter 1 The Great Divides	17
Chapter 2 The Rise of the Opposition	39
Chapter 3 The Build-up to War	62
Chapter 4 The Invasion	77
Chapter 5 Occupation Authorities	96
Chapter 6 A Collapsed State – a Ruined Economy – a Damaged Society	114
Chapter 7 Deepening Rifts in a Brittle Society	132
Chapter 8 Dismantling the Ba’athist State	147
Chapter 9 The Formation of the Governing Council and the Rise of the Insurgency	163
Chapter 10 The Shadow of Real Power	190
Chapter 11 The Enigma of Ayatollah Sistani	204
Chapter 12 A Constitution in Waiting	219
Chapter 13 The Fires of Sectarian Hatreds	233
Chapter 14 A Marshall Plan for Iraq?	249
Chapter 15 April 2004 – the Turning Point	266
Chapter 16 The Interim Iraqi Government	280
Chapter 17 Arabs and Persians	294
Chapter 18 Showdown at the Shrine	316
Chapter 19 To Hold or Abort an Election	334
Chapter 20 Corruption and the Potemkin State	348

vi CONTENTS

Chapter 21	Iraqi Society on the Eve of Free Elections	370
Chapter 22	The Vote	388
Chapter 23	Negotiating a Constitution	403
Chapter 24	Crises and the Jaafari Government	418
Chapter 25	Into Uncharted Waters	436
	Epilogue	453
	Notes	461
	Index	494