

CONTENTS

List of Figures and Tables xi

Acknowledgments xvii

Introduction: The Great Escape 1

PART I. THE EUROPEAN ANOMALY

1 Patterns of Empire 31

PART II. WHY ROME?

2 Core 51

3 Periphery 89

4 Counterfactuals 110

PART III. WHY ONLY ROME?

5 From Justinian to Frederick 127

6 From Genghis Khan to Napoleon 174

PART IV. THE FIRST GREAT DIVERGENCE

7 From Convergence to Divergence 219

| | | |
|---|---------|-----|
| 8 | Nature | 259 |
| 9 | Culture | 307 |

**PART V. FROM THE FIRST TO THE SECOND GREAT
DIVERGENCE**

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 10 | Institutions | 337 |
| 11 | New Worlds | 420 |
| 12 | Understanding | 472 |
| | Epilogue: What Have the Romans Ever Done for Us? | 503 |

Glossary 529

Technical Note to Chapter 1 533

Notes 537

References 603

Index 647