

# The Discovery of Chance

---

*The Life and Thought of  
Alexander Herzen*

Aileen M. Kelly



Harvard University Press

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS • LONDON, ENGLAND

2016

## Contents

---

### *Acknowledgments* ix

|                                              |     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Who Was Herzen?                           | i   |
| 2. Russia and the Romantic Revolution        | 8   |
| 3. A Romantic Youth                          | 24  |
| 4. A Revolution in Science                   | 35  |
| 5. Science and History                       | 54  |
| 6. An Education in Method                    | 67  |
| 7. Science and Saint-Simonism                | 88  |
| 8. Prison and Exile                          | 119 |
| 9. Awakening                                 | 138 |
| 10. The Discovery of Chance                  | 160 |
| 11. From Bacon to Feuerbach: Nature and Time | 187 |
| 12. Man in the Middle                        | 228 |
| 13. A Conservative Revolution                | 261 |
| 14. A Glowing Footprint: Herzen and Proudhon | 289 |
| 15. Toward Another Shore                     | 322 |
| 16. View from the Other Shore                | 340 |
| 17. The Living Truth                         | 363 |
| 18. In Defense of Inconsistency              | 382 |
| 19. What Is History?                         | 412 |
| 20. The Polish Uprising                      | 452 |

21. True Nihilism 474  
22. The Last Years 500

Epilogue 524

*Notes* 535

*Illustration Credits* 583

*Index* 585