## Contents

Preface	ix	
Acknowle	dgments	xi
Introduc	tion 1	
Party Syst	ems, Institut	ional Capturing, and Autocratization

- 2 Rethinking Democratic Backsliding 23
  Politics before Maduro
- 3 The Worst Economic Crisis outside of War 47
  The Political Economy of Collapse
- 4 Rising Opposition 73

  Party-building in Times of Autocratization
- 5 Rising Autocracy 97

  Autocratic Tools to Survive Crises
- 6 Comparisons 121 Nicaragua, Colombia, and Ecuador
- 7 Function Fusion 151
  A Survival Tool for Embattled States
- 8 Conclusion 175
  Vulnerable Autocracy, Collapsing Nation
  Notes 187

References 191

Index 227