

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many people have assisted with this project in countless ways. First and foremost, the people who have shared their work and stories with me have made this book possible. I am eternally grateful to these people (and those who are not mentioned in the text) for sharing their time with me and answering many, many follow-up questions. Meeting them in person sustained my belief in this project and spurred me to complete it. Their particular streams and projects have imprinted on me in ways that I don't yet fully understand. Like some sort of mongrel hatchery salmon, I know I will return at some point to check in with them and their rivers and watersheds.

Thanks to Mukund Belliappa for honest comments on many drafts, Josh Liberatore and Linda Presto for very helpful advice on indexes, and April Reese for advice on shopping my proposal. Mike Rhanis, Brian Marks, Ivan Ascher, Paul Robinson, Adrian Camacho, Joanne Kuebler, Paul Muller, and Ursula Trempaska have provided advice and support at different points along the way. Thanks to Nick DiPasquale, who reviewed the proposal and provided needed encouragement to someone who was only an acquaintance. Thanks to the UU Theme Circle for providing an early opportunity to voice this dream project of mine in public. A shout-out to the FFC, somehow both incessantly present and quietly supportive in the background. Thanks to Claramae Hill for her artistic offerings. Thanks to Morgan Hewitt for demonstrating courage in writing. Thanks to my editor, Miranda Martin, who has provided deft guidance and support to a first-time author.

Finally, I'd like to thank my wife, Caroline, who has been the definition of both a captive reader and an unflagging believer in this project. Like a river, this project has been nourished by these upstream sources, the unseen liquid courage that has seen me through.

RIVER PROFILES



