

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We wish to thank our contributors, who signed on to a book about fearsome labors at a time when the nascent COVID-19 pandemic was fearsomely changing what we all thought we knew about work, how we got it done, and what it meant to us. We are grateful to our sponsoring editor at the University of Texas Press, Jim Burr, and to editorial assistant Mia Uribe Kozlovsky for their support and guidance on the project. We would also like to express our appreciation to Abby Webber for her meticulous editing.

Jason would like to thank his colleagues in the Film and Media Studies Program, the Graduate Program in Visual and Cultural Studies, and the Department of English at the University of Rochester and is especially grateful to the undergraduate and graduate students who have made his horror seminars deeply rewarding and generative. He is thankful to his parents for their support over the years and for being overly permissive about scary movies when he was a kid. As with all his work, Jason has benefited immeasurably on this book from expansive conversations and incisive feedback from Eden Osucha. And he has found his way through the time of the project's creation with Marek and Laszlo, who created stop-motion Lego movies, handmade books and comics, and backyard battles, reimagining their world as infused by the fantastic realms of Tolkien, *Star Wars*, and *Gravity Falls*.

Aviva would like to express her undying gratitude to Monica Miller and Marilyn Reizbaum for making the terrors of real life a bit more bearable (which is a lot). She also wants to thank the Departments of English and Cinema Studies at Bowdoin (with a special shout-out to her Mass Hall second-floor peeps, Aaron Kitch and Maggie Solberg) and her students for their inspiration over the years. She sends lots of love to her parents, who had to deal with how much she was afraid of everything as a child. Most of all, she is so thankful and grateful to her husband, David Hecht, and to her children, Jonah and Zara. Despite his continuing dislike of horror, David has watched many horror films under semiduress and has even come to appreciate some of them. Jonah has an amazing eye for cinematic detail and is the best film companion a maman could ask for. And last but not least, Zara is becoming quite a female Gothic writer in her own right. Aviva can't wait to read what she comes up with next.

Labors of Fear

