

## *Acknowledgments*

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Although they are referenced numerous times in the book itself, I want to emphasize how much I learned from Peter N. Carroll and George Charney. Their books educated and inspired me throughout. I learned, too, from Edwin Rolfe's memoir and poetry, from Danny Duncan Collum's and Victor A. Berch's *African Americans in the Spanish Civil War: "This Ain't Ethiopia, But It'll Do,"* and from rereading George Orwell's classic work *Homage to Catalonia*.

No book or work of art stands alone. Consciously and unconsciously, we all build on what was written before. I am continually inspired and influenced by memoirs read and reread over many years, especially *The Woman Warrior*, by Maxine Hong Kingston; *I Could Tell You Stores*, by Patricia Hampl; *A Tale of Love and Darkness*, by Amos Oz; *The Pure Element of Time*, by Haim Be'Er; *A Sketch of The Past*, by Virginia Woolf; *Notes of A Native Son*, by James Baldwin; and *Patterns of Childhood*, by Christa Wolf. These writers set the standard for the genre of memoir—respectful of literary traditions yet revolutionary in creating new possibilities. I keep learning from them all.

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