

Acknowledgments

For the First Edition

It's always a surprise that a simple, little film with three actors may list credits at the end for fifty to a hundred people. Some of their titles are so obscure as to give no hint of what the named people may actually have done. Yet the film could not have been made without them.

So, too, the making of a book, even a slender one like this, depends on the efforts of a great many people. We didn't make use of gaffers or best boys or hair consultants. But we did profit from the contributions of friends and colleagues who served variously as quipsters, phrase makers, manuscript sloggers, idea debunkers, anecdoters, tone correctors, participle undanglers, silliness detectors, and one-war-story-too-many deleters. Chief among these has been our editor, Janice Wormington. She has managed our efforts and given unstintingly of her great energy, competence, and (usually) good humor.

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