Acknowledgments

I wish to begin these acknowledgments with loving thanks to my husband, Frank, whose love and support have never wavered.

This book was born out of a host of conversations that took place over the years among members of the romance writing community. Many of the women involved in these discussions have essays in this volume, but I wish also to acknowledge the benefit of insights I have garnered from other friends in the sisterhood including Linda Lael Miller, Debbie Macomber, Margaret Chittenden, and Katherine Stone.

In addition, I want to thank Janice Radway and Kay Mussell, whose distinguished work on the romance has opened doors, for their generous encouragement and support of this project.

A very special thanks goes to my agent Steven Axelrod for his professional support and encouragement. His advice has been invaluable over the years.

All of us who write romance are indebted to our spiritual foremothers, the countless generations of storytelling women who preceded us. We are part of an unbroken female line dedicated to passing on an ancient tradition of literature written by women for women.