Acknowledgments

The idea for this book was inspired by my students. Their generation is coming of age at a time when it is challenging to know who or what to believe. My hope is that they get into the habit of reading quality journalism and use their news literacy skills to "read" between the lines and become informed and involved citizens who value and protect democracy.

This is not a typical academic book. Thank you Patricia Mulrane Clayton at Peter Lang Group for seeing my vision, and Dani Green, my editor, and Jackie Pavlovic, production manager and quality champion, for helping to realize that vision.

Thank you to all my media literacy colleagues and especially:

Tessa Jolls and the Center for Media Literacy, you have been my backbone for media literacy. Thank you for being a friend and honoring the legacy of Elizabeth Thoman by continuing to make the Center a vital voice of the media literacy movement.

The National Association for Media Literacy Education, I am grateful to be part of a community that does the critical work to educate and advocate for media literacy education, and I am honored to serve on the Board of Directors to help guide its mission.

xiv | Acknowledgments

Jessi Hollis McCarthy at the Freedom Forum, thank you for being my passionate partner in brainstorming new ways to teach students to disrupt disinformation that threatens our democracy.

My appreciation for my colleagues in the Journalism Department at California State University, Northridge runs deep, especially Linda Bowen, who as Chair supported me developing a news literacy course that is the basis for this book.

A special thank you to Kathy Montgomery and Jeff Chester at the Center for Digital Democracy for your support and our impassioned discussions about media, politics, and life over the many years of our friendship.

I am fortunate to have an extraordinary group of friends and family members who are a constant support — thank you Madeline, Phil, Sue, George, Susan, Richard, my walking partner Linda, my sister Susan, and Loretta my lifeline.

There would be no book without the love and support of my family. Jonah and Kiva, I am forever grateful for the joy you bring and for being two of my biggest supporters, as well as my media literacy experiment when you were growing up. Randy, thank you for enriching our family and carrying on the tradition of media-literate parenting with Eyla. And Alan, the LOML, how do I say thank you to a unique human who is always there for me, makes me laugh, keeps me sane, and shares a life in which we mutually create a space to pursue our passions.