

Dedication

To Cole, Faye, and Remy—

If intelligence were taken out of my life, it would only be more or less reduced. If I had no one to love, it would be ruined.

—Henry De Montherlant, *Explicit Mysticism*, 1931

And to John Currie, who has always known that the only way out is through.

...when, amid the chips of chewed boats, and the sinking limbs of torn comrades, they swam out of the white curds of the whale's direful wrath into the serene, exasperating sunlight, that smiled on, as if at a birth or a bridal.

—Melville, *Moby-Dick*