This book is dedicated to my parents and my grandchildren.

To my parents, who together instilled in me their love of education and the arts.

To my mother, for continuing formal education through all stages of her life.
I walk in your footsteps.

To my father, for teaching me how to dance and refusing to teach me Polish, which meant I had to learn it myself. I honour the gusto of your life as a postwar migrant.

To my grandchildren, who are a constant source of joy.
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