Weaving a Way Home: A Personal Journey Exploring Place and Story Leslie Van Gelder http://www.press.umich.edu/titleDetailDesc.do?id=183572 The University of Michigan Press

Acknowledgments

This book represents a ten-year journey into the continually challenging and fascinating subjects of place and story. My explorations into the subject have had wonderful company. Some companions helped me articulate my initial ideas, others challenged me to explore more deeply, and others kindly read this and earlier drafts to help me to hone my writing. I am grateful to Sally Palmer Thomason, Steve Misa, and Lloyd Aspinwall for being the best combination of supportive friends and critical readers. Patrick Curry, John Elder, Joe and Helen Meeker, Ron and Joan Engel, Tim and Mairéad Robinson, and the growing members of the Roundstone Conversation, who have kept the discussion going and always offer a new collection of ideas to consider. Larry Morris and the Quebec Labrador Foundation, who gave me a start in the first place, and who provide real evidence for the belief that work which values place, community, and the natural world can and will continue to inspire and interconnect a geography of hope around the world.

During my years at Union Institute and University, and in those that have followed, I was aided by the wisdom and friendship of Nancy Owens, Fred Taylor, Annie Merrill Ingram, Patricia Monaghan, Mandy Gardner, Harry Anastasiou, Yiannis Laouris, Heid Erdrich, and the students of the Oxford Institute for Science and Spirit. In France, many thanks to Jean Clottes for rich conversation; to the Plassard family for permitting us to continue to research and explore

Weaving a Way Home: A Personal Journey Exploring Place and Story Leslie Van Gelder

http://www.press.umich.edu/titleDetailDesc.do?id=183572

The University of Michigan Press

in Rouffignac Cave; and to Frederic Gourselle, Sevérine Desbordes, Marie Paul Abadie, and Nicholas Ferrar (of Gargas Cave) for sitting with us in the glow of a flashlight helping us to answer difficult questions left behind twenty thousand years ago.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the members of my family who supported this project, most especially Gordon Van Gelder, Caren Thomas, Rich Behar, Pam and Jim Sharpe, Miriam Sharpe, Nick Cutfield, Kiri Petersen, Nick Rowe, and Sharleen Maddox, as well as those friends who are family, Evelyn Stark, Mike and Vicky Galow, and Carrie and Ted Opderbeck.

Above all, I am grateful to my husband, Kevin Sharpe, who is the most inspiring person I have ever known, and the best companion I could have imagined for exploring the world. It is a result of his constant belief in me that this book exists, as he has encouraged me every step of the way.