Manifold Destiny
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Acknowledgments

One’s destination may or may not be destiny. In Spanish and Portuguese, *destino* can mean destination and destiny. In Arabic, al-wijha is destination whereas al-qadr evokes a pre-determined destiny. Likewise, in English, destination is the end of a journey while destiny suggests one’s eventual fate. Notwithstanding the title, this book is neither a literal destination nor an actual destiny but rather a “history of the present” that I hope will soon take another, more progressive, direction that would make the story recounted in these pages the past of a future with greater equity, justice, and belonging. The research that resulted in this book began at a more optimistic time, in 2007 specifically. I completed most of the research by 2011, when it seemed that this hemisphere was headed for somewhere other than the conjunction where we now find ourselves. Over these years, I met and married my wife, and we welcomed into the world our daughter whose vibrant light gives me energy each and every day. I know not where we are bound for, but I am content that we are bound together.
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our daughter flips through the pages of the dusty hardcover or used paperback, or perhaps more likely glances at a digital copy of this book, I hope that the world that she and her generation inhabit will be a better one.

Urbana-Champaign, September 2, 2020
Figure 0.1. The border where Brazil, Paraguay, and Argentina meet in hemispheric perspective. © OpenStreetMap contributors
Figure 0.2. A map of the border where Brazil, Paraguay, and Argentina meet. On the right is the Brazilian city of Foz do Iguaçu. On the left is the Paraguayan city of Ciudad del Este. At the bottom of the map is the Argentine town of Puerto Iguazú. © OpenStreetMap contributors