Five Strands of Fictionality

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A book like this, which covers so much ground and draws from so many sources, clearly can only be written by someone lucky enough to have the guidance and help of many people. First and foremost I would like to thank Judith Burdan, who was a constant source of information about the eighteenth-century novel, which provides the basis for much of the recent and best work on fictionality. As a colleague with an office just down the hall from my own, Judith provided a sounding board for many of the ideas in this book. She was generous with her time and patient with my attempts to bend research in her field to my own goals in this book.

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