# Contents

Preface xi Prologue 1

# 1: Finding the Motherlode

The Red Boots 53
Listening to the Radio 54
The SS Came at Night 55
Journal Entry – 23 July 2010 56
Speculaas on the Prinsengracht 58
Alarm 59
Journal Entry – 24 July 2010 63

#### 2: The Children

The War Begins 66 Onderduik, 1944 67 We All Took Part 68 The Risks He Took Learning Curve Soldier Boy 71 Christmas Eve 1943 The Beef Tongue Wool Was Hard to Get 74 The Collection The Walnut Tree The American Soldier What Lisbeth Knows No Visible Injury God in de Hemel Bittersweet 81 The Bouquet Liberation in Nijmegen Institut Henri Jaspar, Brussels

### 3: The Survivors

Manna from Heaven 90 A Dutch Jew Looks at the Facts 91 Real Estate Value 93 Riches to Rags 94
Staas 95
Teaching Kindergarten 96
Accuracy 97
Thunder and Lightning 98
The Department Store 99
War's Insidious Bite 100
Altje, 1942 102

### 4: The Fighters

The Story Wasn't True 106
Girl in a Flowered Dress 107
Lotte's Journey 108
The Namesake 109
Dear Folks, Love Ralph 110
The Outline 111
Homage to a Canadian Soldier 112
Stationed in Veghel 114
The Soldier Watches Retribution 115
Occupation Duty 116

Afterword: The Complexity of Belonging 119
Acknowledgements 123
Glossary of Dutch Terms 127