

## CONTENTS

Acknowledgments xi

Introduction 1

### PART I ♦ SPECTACLE

- 1 They Want to See the Thing Done: Public Executions 19
- 2 A Hell of Fire upon Earth: Religion 45

### PART II ♦ WITNESSING

- 3 The Spectator Has a Picture in His Mind to Remember  
for a Long Time: Photography 71
- 4 They Never Witnessed Such a Melodrama:  
Early Moving Pictures 113
- 5 With the Roar of Thunder: *The Birth of a Nation* 147

### PART III ♦ BEARING WITNESS

- 6 We Wanted to Be Boosters and Not Knockers: Photography  
and Antilynching Activism 179
- 7 Bring Home to America What Mob Violence Really Means:  
Hollywood's Spectacular Indictment 223

Conclusion 261

Notes 271

Bibliography 319

Index 339