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# Corporate Blue

A novel presented in partial fulfilment  
of the requirements for the degree of  
Master of Arts in English.

Massey University, Albany, New Zealand.

Daniel Robert Myers

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## Acknowledgements

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I once explained to my brother-in-law what the writer's life was like; the long hours, weeks and months sitting alone in front of a computer screen writing the words and wondering if anyone will ever read them; and the many months and years to follow of writing query letters, collecting rejection slips and waiting patiently for publishers to respond. At the end of my little narrative, my brother-in-law nodded thoughtfully and said, "so, basically, writing is years of isolation followed by years of rejection." At the time, it seemed to be a succinct summation of my life.

In fact, once the novel is completed and it is time to mention those people who, in one way or another, offered their assistance in making my scribblings into something coherent and cohesive, it becomes apparent that it was a team effort. For one thing, it takes a certain amount of fortitude just to be friends with a writer; to sit there in the pub and pretend to have intelligent discourse with someone whose mind is faraway, working out a particularly troublesome plot problem or character development issue; to listen to the writer's self-indulgent whinging and obsession with the work. I am grateful to have such tolerant friends.

In addition there are those in particular who made a direct contribution to this work and, to them, I am particularly indebted:

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