

Acknowledgments

“ ‘The Eighth Square at last!’ she cried as she bounded across, and threw herself down to rest on a lawn as soft as moss, with little flower-beds dotted about it here and there.”
– Lewis Carroll (*“Through the Looking-Glass”*)

This thesis is the final result of six and a half years of research and lab work. As you look at the figures and graphs on its pages, you will learn what I did while I was sitting in the tissue culture room, what I thought about while reading papers, pipetting or peering down microscopes. But the western blots and confocal images will not tell you who where there with me, encouraging me along the way, even at the moments when I thought I’d never get anywhere with my experiments. These first few pages are for them.

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