Acknowledgments

The cover image is a reproduction of striking Paleolithic rock art in northern Africa, Gilf Kebir, painted by Elisabeth Pauli in 1933 during an anthropological expedition to that region. It was exhibited together with other such documents of prehistoric rock art at the MoMA in New York in 1937. The picture documents the common universal heritage of human beings, here displayed in a cave in northern Africa by people whose descendants were regarded as primitive brutes by European colonizers. It shows the rich, equal creative endowment of human beings that has been the basis for the cultural achievements of our species throughout the ages and across the globe, achievements that ultimately also include – which is the point of this book – the ethics and law of human rights.

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