

Contents

Preface	ix
Acknowledgments	xv
 <i>Part One. A Comic History of Dames</i>	
1 Fast-Talking Dames	4
2 Female Pygmalions	36
 <i>Part Two. Hot Heiresses and Working Girls</i>	
3 Blonde Bombshells: Jean Harlow, Carole Lombard, and Ginger Rogers	84
4 My Favorite Brunettes: Myrna Loy, Jean Arthur, and Claudette Colbert	132
 <i>Part Three. The Grande Dames</i>	
5 Missing Links: <i>Bringing Up Baby</i>	174
6 The Lady-Dame: Irene Dunne and <i>The Awful Truth</i>	202
7 Garbo's Laugh	236
8 Female Rampant: <i>His Girl Friday</i>	268
9 <i>The Lady Eve</i> and the Female Con	298
Conclusion: Blondes Born Yesterday	324
 Notes	 341
Index	359