

## It takes two, baby...

the German mother  
&  
the American daughter



his  
'n  
hers

the nun  
&  
the high priestess



one for the road  
&  
two to tango

the adult (?)  
&  
the inner child



the lead singer  
&  
the backup

## ...me and you.

Maker and viewer—you can't have one without the other. My films won't live if you don't see them, and you wouldn't see them if I didn't make them, and round and round it goes. And the first viewers? That fluctuating group of generous friends who have spent, collectively, hundreds of hours over the years reading texts and sitting in editing rooms telling me what they're hearing and seeing. I learned right away, with my first film, that I don't see or hear very well on my own. Or rather, I only see what I think (and hope) is there. So they let me know what's actually there. I think it's funny? *Ha*. Poignant? *Maudlin*. Logical? *Confusing*. Revealing? *Guarded*. Complex? *Clichéd*. Imaginative? *In your dreams!* And after they leave? *Oh, poor me, I've worked so hard...* So I'm back to the grindstone and feeling very sorry for myself until I stop whining and start to implement their suggestions. And then? Gratitude! Immense gratitude! Because they sweated and strained to make order from my chaos, I can see how it might be possible, and is certainly worth trying, to make the thing better. I'm grateful that they took the risk of being honest with me—if they didn't, who would? You? I always hope so. You're seeing it after it's done, so you can't affect its outcome, but there's always the next idea, shot, text to come. We always have to remember (even if through gritted teeth) that there's more to be learned about the art and craft of making films. So three cheers to each of you who have taken the time to split hairs over my split infinitives. Thanks for proving to me that it always takes two to make a dream come true. And thanks to Marvin Gaye and Tammy Terrell for setting that to such fine music.

—Su Friedrich