

Contents

Series Editor's Preface	ix
<i>Mary E. Weems</i>	

Foreword	xi
<i>H. L. (Bud) Goodall, Jr.</i>	

Acknowledgments	xvii
---------------------------	------

Prologue: Telling	xix
-----------------------------	-----

Introduction: The Call for a Rural Black Woman's Story	1
--	---

List of Main Characters	14
-----------------------------------	----

Part One: (Daily) Bread

Chapter One	18
Window Poem: "Business"	22

Chapter Two	23
Window Poem: "Patience"	28

Chapter Three	29
Window Poem: "Cake"	33

Chapter Four	34
Window Poem: "Moon Looks White"	40

Chapter Five	41
Window Poem: "Long and Hard"	46

Chapter Six	47
Window Poem: "Daddy"	51

Chapter Seven	52
Window Poem: "Passin'"	57
Chapter Eight	58
<i>Interlude: Porch Premonitions</i>	65

Part Two: (Robin) Bird

Chapter Nine	74
Window Poem: "Fireflies"	78
Chapter Ten	79
Window Poem: "Waiting to See"	82
Chapter Eleven	83
Window Poem: "It Hurt To Be Called Black"	87
Chapter Twelve	88
Window Poem: "Beauty Marks"	94
Chapter Thirteen	95
Window Poem: "Love Me Tender"	98
Chapter Fourteen	99
Window Poem: "I Feel Saved"	103
Chapter Fifteen	104
Window Poem: "Poem for Mama's Father"	110
Chapter Sixteen	111
Conclusion: Why These Stories Matter	114
Appendix: Methodology	117
Postscript	123
Bibliography	125

* Window Poems by Mary E. Weems