

CONTENTS

Author's Note	ix
Preface	xvii
PART 1	1
Carnage	3
Ancestry	7
What's In a Name	22
Separation	32
Hit and Run	40
Being a Man	43
She's Gone	50
PART 2	55
Life Goes On	57
Helping Out	60
Who Was That Woman?	64
The Wilsons	66
Preparation for School	69
Mud Pies	72
Work and Wait	74
The Divorce	78
Clink, Clink, Clink:	
Interpreting Sounds Not So Silent and Other Things	81
Social Changes	84
Now Daddy's Leaving Too?!	89
PART 3	105
Too Big For My Britches	107
Fun Times	112
I Am More Than My Hair	116

Integration	118
Hanging Out	121
Mrs. Parker	127
Time for Change	131
She's Back	135
PART 4	137
Building Confidence	139
The Power of Support	144
College Girl	147
To College and Beyond	151
Miracles Do Come True	155
Expect the Unexpected	162
Paradise	166
The Real World	170
Another Test	172
Our Bundle of Joy	174
Jamaica Again, Really!	177
Mr. Mandela	179
The Nursing Home Blues	182
The Call	185
The Stork Strikes Again	188
Another Move	190
Where We Are Now	197
Afterword	201
Acknowledgments	205
References	209