

Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction	1
1 Contexts	9
2 Setting the Record Straight: Margaret Walker's <i>Jubilee</i>	25
3 History as Birthmark: Gayl Jones's <i>Corregidora</i>	63
4 "The Undocumentable Inside of History": Sherley Anne Williams's <i>Dessa Rose</i>	97
5 "Her Best Thing, Her Beautiful, Magical Best Thing": Toni Morrison's <i>Beloved</i> and Phyllis Perry's <i>Stigmata</i>	133
Conclusion	171
Notes	179
Bibliography	207
Index	233