$C\ O\ N\ T\ E\ N\ T\ S$ 

## Acknowledgments vii

## Introduction 1.

- Slavery and Reconstruction 13
  Jubilee (1966) by Margaret Walker
  Dessa Rose (1986) by Sherley Anne Williams \*
  Beloved (1987) by Toni Morrison
- 2 From the Great War to World War II 47 The Bluest Eye (1970) by Toni Morrison The Color Purple (1982) by Alice Walker
- 3 Harbingers of Change: Harlem 74

  Daddy Was a Number Runner (1970) by Louise Meriwether

  A Short Walk (1979) by Alice Childress

  A Measure of Time (1983) by Rosa Guy
- 4 Private Lives before the Movement 110

  The Third Life of Grange Copeland (1970) by Alice Walker

  Sula (1973) by Toni Morrison

5 From Desegregation to Voting Rights 129
Song of Solomon (1977) by Toni Morrison
The Lakestown Rebellion (1978) by Kristin Hunter
Sassafrass, Cypress, and Indigo (1982) by Ntozake Shange
Betsey Brown (1985) by Ntozake Shange

6 In the Wake of the Movement 167

Meridian (1976) by Alice Walker

The Salt Eaters (1980) by Toni Cade Bambara

Tar Baby (1981) by Toni Morrison

Afterword 199

The Temple of My Familiar (1989) by Alice Walker

Notes 209

Bibliography of Primary Works 219

Index 221