



# **AUTOBIOGRAPHY IN FIVE SHORT CHAPTERS**

**by Portia Nelson**

## **I**

**I walk down the street.  
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk  
I fall in.  
I am lost ... I am helpless.  
It isn't my fault.  
It takes me forever to find a way out.**

## **II**

**I walk down the same street.  
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.  
I pretend I don't see it.  
I fall in again.  
I can't believe I am in the same place  
but, it isn't my fault.  
It still takes a long time to get out.**

## **III**

**I walk down the same street.  
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.  
I see it is there.  
I still fall in ... it's a habit.  
my eyes are open  
I know where I am.  
It is my fault.  
I get out immediately.**

## **IV**

**I walk down the same street.  
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.  
I walk around it.**

## **V**

**I walk down another street.**

