

Contents



<i>Introduction,</i> Elaine Campbell and Pierrette Frickey	1
ANTIGUA	
Jamaica Kincaid Excerpt from <i>The Autobiography of My Mother</i>	9
BARBADOS	
Esther Phillips "I Do Not Know My Father"	13
BELIZE	
Zee Edgell "Longtime Story"	15
CURAÇAO	
Nydia Ecury "Song for Mother Earth," "Kantika Pa Mama Tera"	27
"The Promise," "Promesa"	30
"Old Lady," "Habai"	32
DOMINICA	
Phyllis Allfrey "The Child's Return"	35
"Love for an Island"	36
"Miss Garthside's Greenhouse"	37
Christabel LaRonde "Smile Please"	41
Gilda Nassief "Caribman"	43
"Blacksister"	44
"C'est juste une guêpe"	44
"Maroussia"	45

Jean Rhys	
"The Whistling Bird"	47
Excerpt from <i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i>	51
GRENADA	
Merle Collins	
"Madeline"	57
GUADELOUPE	
Maryse Condé	
"Wayang Kulit"	71
Simone Schwarz-Bart	
Excerpt from <i>The Bridge of Beyond</i>	77
GUYANA	
Beryl Gilroy	
Excerpt from <i>Frangipani House</i>	83
Grace Nichols	
"Web of Kin"	89
"We the Women"	91
"These Islands"	92
HAITI	
Edwidge Danticat	
"Night Women"	93
JAMAICA	
Louise Bennett	
"Candy Seller"	97
"Bans O'Ooman!"	99
Erna Brodber	
Excerpt from <i>Myal</i>	101
Michelle Cliff	
Excerpt from <i>Abeng</i>	107
Christine Craig	
"Burnt Hill"	117
Lorna Goodison	
"Mulatta Song"	127
"Missing the Mountains"	129
Una Marson	
Excerpt from <i>Pocomania</i>	131
"There Will Come a Time"	139

Velma Pollard		
"Marine Turtle"		141
"Mule"		143
Olive Senior		
"Discerner of Hearts"		145
Carmen Tipling		
<i>Lunchtime Revolution</i>		169
MARTINIQUE		
Suzanne Dracius		
"Sweat, Sugar and Blood"		193
PUERTO RICO		
Ana Lydia Vega		
"Eye-Opener"		203
Esmeralda Santiago		
Excerpt from <i>When I Was Puerto Rican</i>		215
TRINIDAD		
Madeline Coopsammy		
"The Tick-Tick Bicycle"		231
Merle Hodge		
"Inez"		239
Elizabeth Nunez		
Excerpt from <i>Bruised Hibiscus</i>		243
Jan Williams		
"Arise, My Love"		259
<i>About the Authors</i>		265
<i>About the Editors</i>		275