

## *Autobiography in Five Short Chapters*

### Chapter 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 forever to find a way out.

### Chapter 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'm in this same place.  
But it isn't my fault.  
It still takes a long time to get out.

### Chapter III

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

### Chapter IV

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

### Chapter V

I walk down another street.

—Portia Nelson