

# Contents

Introduction: The Crescent City	1
<b>PART ONE</b> On Fragile Ground	
<i>Clouds</i>	29
1 The Black Urban Delta	33
2 “Twelve Murders and Two Victims?”: Asserting Black Social and Spiritual Value	61
<b>PART TWO</b> In Search of Love at Liberty Street	
<i>Walk Out There on Faith</i>	93
3 Somebodies on the Battlefield for the Lord	97
4 THOU SHALT <u>NOT</u> KILL: Commanding Peace in Particular Places	121
<b>PART THREE</b> Raising Dead Sons	
<i>Seeing</i>	151
5 Black Mothers at the Center of Death and Transformation	155
6 Restorative Kinship: Birthdays and Death Anniversaries for Children of God	180
Conclusion: The Crescent City Illuminated	207
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	225
<i>Notes</i>	231
<i>References</i>	249
<i>Index</i>	265

