

# Contents

<i>List of Map and Tables</i>	ix
<i>Preface</i>	xi
<i>Ancestral Scratchings</i>	
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xv
Introduction	1
Ancestral Vibrations	
 <b>Part 1 Precolonial West Africa: Context and Perspectives</b>	
1 “Dey Fooled Dem to Come”: Seduction and Trickery in the African Slave Trade	15
2 “Before the Arrival of the Good Ship <i>Jesus</i> ”: African Women in Precolonial West Africa	29
 <b>Part 2 Historical Grotesque Realities</b>	
3 “Trouble Done Bore Me Down”: Intimate Violence against Enslaved Women	53
Enslaved Women and Domestic Violence: “ <i>Dey wuked me lak a dog an’ beat me somepin turrible</i> ”	56
4 “Dat Man Grabbed Me an’ Strip Me Naked”: Enslaved Women and Sexual Violence	71
5 “In the Company of My Sisters”: Violence among Women in the American Colonies	85
Enslaved Women and Sisterhood Violence: “ <i>Misses would beat and stomp away, with all the venom of a demon</i> ”	86
Enslaved Women and Sistah-hood Violence: “ <i>That woman was simply mean</i> ”	93

6	“Fix Me Jesus”: Enslaved Women and Self-Violence	113
<b>Part 3 Yearning for the Beautiful</b>		
7	“However Far the Stream Flows It Never Forgets Its Source”: Five Strategies of Subversion and Freedom	147
8	“The Current Continues”: Four More Strategies of Subversion and Freedom	195
	<i>Notes</i>	233
	<i>Author Index</i>	265
	<i>Subject Index</i>	273

## Map and Tables

### Map

Map of Africa	32
---------------	----

### Tables

7.1	Slave Revolts	164
7.2	Tricknology Experts	177
7.3	Harnessing Wellness: Healing	185
7.4	Harnessing Wellness: Protection	190
8.1	Garnering the Master's Literacy Tools	216