Autobiography in Five Short Chapters

Portia Nelson

Ι.

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.

II.

I walk down the same street.

There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.

I pretend I do not 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 a different street.