Contents

Acknowledgments .................................................. xi

CHAPTER ONE
Honoring Ecowomanist Experience ......................... 1
  Earth Story:
    An Ecowomanist Ecoautobiography ...................... 2
    A Family Ecojourney .................................. 7
    Overview of This Book ................................. 9

CHAPTER TWO
Ecowomanism 101: Method and Approaches ............... 13
  Ecowomanism: Theory and Praxis ....................... 14
  Critical Reflection on Experience and Womanist
    Intersectional Analysis:
      Deconstructive and Constructive .................... 16
      Critical Deconstructive Analysis ................... 17
      Constructive Approaches ............................ 20
  Method, Roots, and Womanist Lineage .................. 21
  The Seven-Step Ecowomanist Method .................... 23
    Step One: Honoring Experience and
      Mining Ecomemory .................................. 27
    Step Two: Critical Reflection on
      Experience and Ecomemory ......................... 38
    Step Three: Womanist Intersectional Analysis ...... 42
    Step Four: Critically Examining African
      and African American History and Tradition .... 49
    Step Five: Engaging Transformation .................. 54
    Step Six: Sharing Dialogue ............................ 57
## Contents

*Step Seven: Take Action for Earth Justice:*
  - Teaching Ecowomanism ........................................ 58
  - Conclusion ..................................................... 58

### CHAPTER THREE

Critical Exploration of African and African American History and Tradition
- African American History and Tradition ..................... 61
- African American Environmental History .................... 65
- African and African American Environmental Religious Ethics ..................... 69
- Ecowomanism: A Review ......................................... 72
- Making Connections:
  - African Religion, Ecology, and the Diaspora ............ 73
- “I Can’t Breathe” ................................................. 76

### CHAPTER FOUR

Engaging Transformation:
- Ecowomanist Spirituality ....................................... 79
- Alice Walker ...................................................... 81
- The Definition of Womanist: Center of Ecowomanist Thought ..................... 86
- Rose Mary Amenga-Etego ..................................... 96
  - *The Environment as Sacred:*
    - *The Earth as Sacred* ...................................... 97
- Gender and Interconnectedness of Ecosystem ................ 99
- *African Spirituality* ........................................... 101
- *Spiritual Activism* ............................................ 102
- Mercy Oduyoye .................................................. 102
- Ecowomanist Praxis: Ecospirituality, Self-Care, and Earth Healing Practices ........... 105
- African American Environmental History and Healing Ecomemory .................... 105

### CHAPTER FIVE

Ecowomanist Interreligious Dialogue .......................... 111
- Womanist Roots .................................................. 114
Contents

Womanism Is Postcolonial ....................... 115
Home: Womanist Epistemology and
   Interfaith Womanist Dialogue .......... 117
The Womanist Dancing Mind, Method,
   and Interfaith Womanist Dialogue .... 119
Eyes toward Justice: The Value of
   Interdisciplinary Approaches and Global
   Links in Womanist Interfaith Dialogue .... 123
Interfaith, Interreligious, and Intrareligious
   Womanism. .................................. 125
   Interfaith Womanist Dialogue .......... 126
   Interreligious Womanist Dialogue .... 128
   Intrareligious Womanist Dialogue .... 130

CHAPTER SIX
Taking Action for Earth Justice:
   Teaching Ecowomanism .................... 133
   Pedagogical Exercise ..................... 138
   Ritual Example ........................... 139
   Litany ........................................ 140

CHAPTER SEVEN
Ecowomanism and Ecological Reparations ...... 141
   Ecowomanism ................................ 141
   Ecowomanism and Ecological Reparations .... 143
   Ecological Reparations .................... 144
   Reimagining Theology: Ecowomanist Analysis
      and the Challenge of Reshaping Dualistic
      Theological Frames ....................... 145
   Challenges: Breaking the Addiction to
      Dualisms in Western Thought .......... 146
      Honoring Complexity .................... 148

Conclusion: Liberating Earth and Ecowomanism .... 151

Index ........................................... 157