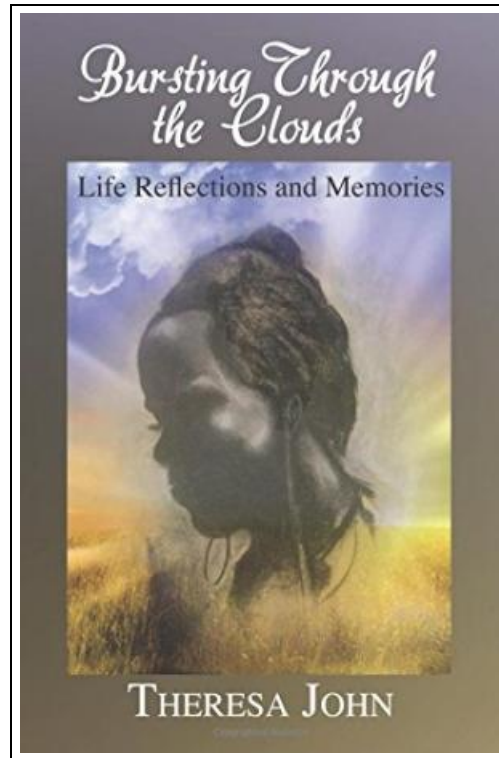


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Bookstand Publishing, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. A study in masterful creative nonfiction, *Bursting Through the Clouds* is Theresa John s compelling memoir of her childhood in the Jim Crow South and her journey to young adulthood in New York. These luxurious homes, monuments of slavery and later segregation, once only allowed black servants and handymen to enter from the rear. I remembered that Mama had entered some of these homes many times through similar back doors to do domestic work and tend to white folks children. Worn down from standing all day while ironing clothes and cleaning, she often brought clothes home in the evenings to iron so Mr. Duncan had clean fresh shirts and underwear for his week s work. So begins the life of Theresa John, born in Jim Crow-era Liberty, North Carolina to sharecroppers. Theresa s mother, left widowed with five children, struggles to feed her children and ensure they grow to be respectable adults -- with no time or inclination to indulge childish nonsense. Yet Misty Ann, as she is called by those who love her, is determined to live fully, whether it s in absconding with apples from the neighboring church s tree or standing against the cruel colorism of her well-meaning teachers. Misty Ann loves her family and community, but knows her destiny lies beyond them both. Mistaken for a white person throughout her teens, watching the abuse befalling her mother s respectable marriage, and experiencing the tragic death of a friend who could never turn down a dare, Misty Ann experiences the pressures and injustices of segregation from all perspectives, using them to her advantage to start a life of her own. Misty Ann endures poverty, the silencing shame of sexual assault,...



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