

luke 15: 11-12, 17 (paraphrased)

then jesus said, "there was once a man who had two sons. the younger said to his father, 'I want right now what's coming to me!' he took his inheritance and left. Sometime later, and completely broke, he came to his senses."

autobiography in 5 chapters

(portia nelson, with addendum by tom mcdermott)

chapter i

i walk down the street. there is a deep hole in the sidewalk. i fall in and am lost ... i am hopeless. but it isn't my fault. and it takes forever to find a way out.

chapter ii

i walk down the same street. there is a deep hole in the sidewalk. i pretend i don't see it. i fall in again. i can't believe i'm in the same place. but it isn't my fault. and it still takes a long time to get out.

chapter 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, a pattern. my eyes are open. i know where i am. it is my fault. i get out immediately

chapter iv.

i walk down the same street. there is a deep hole in the sidewalk. i walk around it

chapter v.

i walk down another street.

addendum

all streets have holes. sometimes i climb down just to sit with them. i'm careful to leave a sign above which reads, "hole."