

childhoods, your own as well as those of the Black girls you encountered in this book and those with whom you coexist on this earth. We hope you remember and return, again and again, to your core self as you toil with and for Black girls. We hope you have found value in engaging a womanist understanding of the intimate geographies of Black girls in educational spaces. We hope the stories shared here provided you with generative lessons on how to build and cultivate spaces conducive to Black girls living vibrant, viable lives (Jeffrey and Dyson 2022) in spite of the suffering (Dumas 2014) borne of a world bent on the decimation of Black girlhoods.

With love,
Lucía and Esther

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Note

1. With deference to Dionne Brand, McKittrick (2006: ix) wrote, “the earth is also skin and . . . a young girl can legitimately take possession of a street, or an entire city, albeit on different terms than we may be familiar with.”

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