



Advance Praise

for *Booker T & Them: A Blues*

“The genius of Bill Harris has never been more evident than in *Booker T & Them*. This book is such a tightly woven fabric of history, biography, poetry, drama, song, sound, quotations, and definitions that the threads defy separation. We are taken on an unforgettable journey into the thoughts and experiences of Washington and some of his contemporaries—their public and their secret selves—as they battle racism and its apostles in various ways. Everyone who cares about justice should read this marvelously written book.”

— Naomi Long Madgett, poet laureate of Detroit

“*Booker T & Them*, a bio-poem, traces the dank holes of Jim Crow during the early twentieth century while examining the psyche of men who donned masks of minstrelsy to survive its landmines. No ghosts here—just ancestors with grit and fortitude!”

— Hilda Vest, poet and publisher of *Riffs & Coda*, Broadside Press, Detroit

“Bill Harris is brilliant. Very few writers can synthesize an era of history, features of its epoch making events, the biographical details of figures from that era, and render them in an aesthetically sophisticated book-length prose poem or set of poems.”

— David Roediger, author of *Black on White: Black Authors on What It Means to Be White*

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