

Story Synopsis

The women of Flyin' West face problems ranging from the inevitability of long, cold winters, to the possibility of domestic violence, to the continuing specter of racial conflict. By name, they are Miss Leah, the old woman whose memories of slavery and its aftermath comprise a living oral history; Sophie Washington, full of determination to protect her land and those she loves; Fannie Mae Dove, the gentle sister, trying to civilize the frontier with fine china and roses (and finds herself falling in love with their soft-spoken neighbor, Wil Parish); and Minnie Dove Charles, the baby sister whose mulatto husband, Frank, struggles with inner and outer conflicts of his bi-racial background which threatens their marriage, Minnie's allegiance to her sisters, and the entire household's independence.