

The Taíno Women – A Novel
Outline

The gross outline of the plot of this novel, in progress, is like this: a young college graduate student is involved in a serious car accident and lies in a coma in a hospital. She is visited (or not) by the ghost of a Taíno woman, daughter of a chieftain, who was raped and enslaved by the Spanish conquerors of the island in the early 1500s; the ghost proceeds to tell the story (maybe fictitious) of her life and that of her daughter (who grows up as a mestizo prostitute) and her granddaughter (an aspiring nun, partly sired by a black slave). According to the ghost, her daughter committed suicide, but her granddaughter grew to be a great mystic. The young girl in a coma awakens in confusion, not knowing whether the story she heard was a true account, a false account by an unreliable witness, or coma-induced fantasy.