



## Things I Must Have Known

By A B Spellman

Coffee House Press. Paperback / softback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Things I Must Have Known, A B Spellman, "Read this collection and you will need no one to convince you that poetry is a necessity."-Keorapetse Kgositsile, South African National Poet Laureate After a long hiatus from poetry, A.B. Spellman, a founding member of the Black Arts Movement and a nationally recognized jazz scholar, returns with an exuberant, generous collection. Touching on creativity and fatherhood, racism and workplace politics, his poems address the most important personal and public events of the last seventy years-of how it felt to grow up black in a segregated America, of the transformational experience of hearing John Coltrane live, of the give-and-take of a long marriage, and of the importance and inspiration of good friends: "if, as the yoruba say, all human beings cover their nakedness with other human beings show does friendship accomplish love? for i am never so bare as i am with you. \*\*\*lovers & siblings do not have this. they have too much to defend & defend against & we do not. we have thoughts that match & easy laughter. we have the wisdom of the ocean & all the breeze that calls it there" A.B. Spellman spent thirty years...



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-- **Bernhard Russel**