

a raisin the sun

a raisin the sun is one of the most influential plays in American literature, exploring the struggles, dreams, and resilience of an African American family in mid-20th century Chicago. This article provides a comprehensive analysis of "A Raisin in the Sun," its central themes, historical context, and enduring cultural significance. Readers will discover background information about the playwright Lorraine Hansberry, a detailed summary of the plot, in-depth character analysis, and an exploration of the play's major motifs such as the American Dream and racial discrimination. The article will also discuss the lasting impact of "A Raisin in the Sun" on theater and society, making it a must-read for students, educators, and anyone interested in classic American drama. By the end, you'll gain a thorough understanding of why this play remains so relevant and powerful today.

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Overview of "A Raisin in the Sun"

"A Raisin in the Sun" is a groundbreaking play written by Lorraine Hansberry, first performed in 1959. The play centers on the Younger family as they confront economic hardship, racial discrimination, and internal conflicts while pursuing their individual and collective dreams. The title originates from Langston Hughes's poem "Harlem," which questions what happens to a dream deferred. As a cornerstone of American theater, "A Raisin in the Sun" continues to resonate with audiences for its honest portrayal of family, aspiration, and the African American experience.

About Lorraine Hansberry

Lorraine Hansberry was an influential African American playwright and activist. Born in Chicago in 1930, Hansberry drew upon her own experiences growing up in a racially segregated society to create "A Raisin in the Sun." At just 29 years old, she became the first Black woman to have a play produced on Broadway. Hansberry's work is distinguished by her insightful social commentary and advocacy for civil rights, earning her a lasting place in American literary history.

Plot Summary

The narrative of "A Raisin in the Sun" unfolds in the cramped apartment of the Younger family, who await a \$10,000 life insurance payout following the death of the family patriarch. Each family member envisions a different future: Lena Younger (Mama) dreams of buying a house to fulfill her late husband's wish; Walter Lee, her son, desires to invest in a liquor store to achieve financial independence; Beneatha, Walter's sister, aspires to become a doctor and embrace her African heritage; Ruth, Walter's wife, seeks stability for her family. Tensions rise as their dreams clash, and the family confronts obstacles including racism when attempting to move into a white neighborhood. Ultimately, the Youngers unite to pursue a future built on dignity and hope.

Main Characters and Character Analysis

The characters in "A Raisin in the Sun" are complex, each representing different perspectives on ambition, identity, and family values. Their interactions drive the story and highlight the play's major themes.

Lena Younger (Mama)

Mama is the matriarch of the family, embodying wisdom, faith, and resilience. Her primary concern is the well-being of her children and maintaining moral integrity. Mama's dream of owning a house symbolizes her hope for a better life and her commitment to her family's future.

Walter Lee Younger

Walter Lee is a chauffeur who feels trapped by socioeconomic limitations. His pursuit of the American Dream is marked by frustration and desperation, leading to conflict within the family. Walter's journey from self-interest to self-sacrifice forms a central arc in the play.

Beneatha Younger

Beneatha is an ambitious, intellectual young woman determined to become a doctor. She questions traditional gender roles and explores her African roots. Beneatha's character challenges stereotypes and represents the search for personal and cultural identity.

Ruth Younger

Ruth, Walter's wife, is pragmatic and hardworking, striving to maintain harmony in the family. She faces her own struggles with poverty and unfulfilled dreams, but ultimately supports the family's collective aspirations.

Travis Younger

The youngest member of the Younger family, Travis symbolizes hope and the next generation. His presence reinforces the family's motivation to build a better future.

- Lena "Mama" Younger: Family matriarch, values tradition and faith
- Walter Lee Younger: Ambitious son, pursues entrepreneurial success
- Beneatha Younger: Progressive daughter, seeks education and identity
- Ruth Younger: Supportive wife, practical, seeks stability
- Travis Younger: Youngest, embodies hope for the future

Major Themes and Motifs

"A Raisin in the Sun" explores several enduring themes that reflect both the era in which it was written and universal human experiences. These themes provide depth and relevance, making the play a subject of ongoing analysis and discussion.

The American Dream

The pursuit of the American Dream is central to the play, with each character embodying different versions of success, freedom, and self-fulfillment. The Younger family's struggles highlight the barriers that marginalized groups face in achieving these dreams.

Racial Discrimination and Segregation

The play confronts the harsh realities of racism and housing segregation, particularly through the Youngers' attempt to move into a predominantly white neighborhood. These challenges underscore the persistent inequality and prejudice in American society.

Family and Sacrifice

Family relationships and the willingness to make sacrifices for loved ones are pivotal. Mama's decision to use the insurance money to buy a house illustrates the importance of unity and collective well-being.

Identity and Self-Discovery

Beneatha's exploration of her African heritage and the family's search for dignity illustrate the theme of identity. The play encourages audiences to consider the importance of self-respect and cultural pride.

Historical and Social Context

"A Raisin in the Sun" was written during the Civil Rights Movement, a time of profound social change in the United States. The play reflects the challenges faced by African American families, including economic hardship, systemic racism, and housing discrimination. Hansberry's own experiences with restrictive covenants and segregation in Chicago informed the narrative. The play's debut on Broadway marked a turning point for Black representation in American theater, opening doors for future playwrights and actors.

Impact and Legacy

Since its premiere, "A Raisin in the Sun" has become a seminal work in American drama. It was the first play written by a Black woman to be produced on Broadway and has influenced generations of writers, actors, and audiences. The play's honest depiction of African American life and its exploration of universal themes have cemented its place in literary and theatrical canon. "A Raisin in the Sun" continues to be studied in schools and performed worldwide, affirming its relevance across generations.

Adaptations and Cultural References

The enduring popularity of "A Raisin in the Sun" has led to numerous adaptations and references in literature, film, and television. Notable adaptations include a 1961 film starring Sidney Poitier and Ruby Dee, several television productions, and a Tony Award-winning Broadway revival. The play has inspired artists and writers to address issues of race, identity, and social justice in their own work. Its title and themes are frequently referenced in discussions of the American Dream and civil rights.

Frequently Asked Questions about "A Raisin in the Sun"

Q: What is the significance of the title "A Raisin in the Sun"?

A: The title is taken from Langston Hughes's poem "Harlem," which asks what happens to a dream deferred—does it dry up "like a raisin in the sun"? It symbolizes the impact of postponed or unfulfilled dreams, a central theme of the play.

Q: Who wrote "A Raisin in the Sun" and why is it important?

A: Lorraine Hansberry wrote "A Raisin in the Sun." It is important because it was the first play by a Black woman produced on Broadway and brought attention to racial discrimination and the struggles of African American families.

Q: What are the main themes in "A Raisin in the Sun"?

A: The main themes include the pursuit of the American Dream, racial discrimination, family unity, identity, and personal sacrifice.

Q: How does the play address racial discrimination?

A: The play addresses racial discrimination through the Youngers' experiences with housing segregation and their confrontation with a representative of the white neighborhood association who tries to prevent them from moving in.

Q: Who are the major characters in "A Raisin in the Sun"?

A: The major characters include Lena (Mama) Younger, Walter Lee Younger, Beneatha

Younger, Ruth Younger, and Travis Younger.

Q: When was "A Raisin in the Sun" first performed?

A: The play debuted on Broadway in 1959.

Q: What is the setting of "A Raisin in the Sun"?

A: The story takes place in a small apartment in the South Side of Chicago during the 1950s.

Q: How has "A Raisin in the Sun" influenced American theater?

A: The play opened doors for Black playwrights and actors, brought African American family life to the Broadway stage, and addressed social issues that remain relevant today.

Q: What adaptations of "A Raisin in the Sun" exist?

A: Adaptations include a 1961 film, several television versions, and a Tony Award-winning Broadway revival.

Q: Why is "A Raisin in the Sun" still relevant today?

A: Its exploration of issues like racial injustice, economic hardship, and the pursuit of dreams continues to resonate with contemporary audiences, reflecting ongoing social challenges.

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A Raisin in the Sun: Dreams, Despair, and the American Dream Deferred

Introduction:

Lorraine Hansberry's "A Raisin in the Sun" isn't just a play; it's a searing examination of the African American experience in mid-20th century America. This post delves deep into the play's themes, characters, and enduring relevance, offering a comprehensive analysis that goes beyond a simple plot summary. We'll explore the powerful symbolism, the struggles of a Black family striving for upward mobility, and the timeless questions the play continues to raise about race, class, and the elusive promise of the American Dream. Prepare to be challenged, moved, and inspired by this exploration of Hansberry's masterpiece.

The Younger Family: A Microcosm of the Black Experience

The heart of "A Raisin in the Sun" lies with the Younger family. This close-knit, yet fractured, unit embodies the complexities of navigating a society rife with racial prejudice and economic disparity.

Walter Lee Younger: The Burden of Responsibility

Walter Lee, the family patriarch, is arguably the play's most complex and compelling character. His desperate yearning for financial independence, fueled by the insurance payout from his deceased father's life insurance, drives much of the plot. He dreams of owning a liquor store, seeing it as the key to escaping the confines of poverty and providing a better future for his family. However, his impulsive nature and flawed judgment lead to disastrous consequences, highlighting the precariousness of achieving the American Dream under systemic oppression.

Ruth Younger: The Strength of Resilience

Ruth, Walter Lee's wife, represents the quiet strength and unwavering resilience necessary to survive in a hostile environment. She shoulders the burdens of the household, working tirelessly while constantly supporting her husband's dreams, even when she harbors doubts. Ruth's character embodies the unseen sacrifices and unwavering support that often underpin the struggles of many Black families.

Beneatha Younger: The Pursuit of Knowledge

Beneatha, Walter Lee's sister, represents the aspirations of a younger generation seeking to break free from the limitations imposed by their circumstances. Her pursuit of higher education and her

desire to become a doctor represent the possibility of upward mobility through hard work and determination, a contrast to Walter Lee's more reckless approach. Her intellectual curiosity and evolving identity offer a complex perspective on racial identity and self-discovery within the confines of a prejudiced society.

Lena Younger (Mama): The Anchor of the Family

Mama, the matriarch of the Younger family, is the moral compass of the play. Her wisdom, grounded in experience, tempers the family's volatile emotions. Her eventual decision regarding the family's future showcases her profound understanding of the value of both financial security and preserving family unity. Mama represents the strength and wisdom of the older generation, passing down lessons of perseverance and resilience.

Themes Explored in "A Raisin in the Sun"

"A Raisin in the Sun" transcends its specific historical context, exploring timeless themes that continue to resonate with audiences today.

The American Dream Deferred

The play masterfully explores the elusive nature of the American Dream for African Americans. The Younger family's struggles highlight the systemic barriers that impede their progress, exposing the hypocrisy of a nation that promises opportunity but delivers oppression. The play questions whether the American Dream is truly attainable for everyone, regardless of race or background.

Racial Prejudice and Discrimination

The play unflinchingly portrays the pervasive racism of the time. The Younger family faces constant discrimination, from subtle slights to overt prejudice. The confrontation with Mr. Lindner, the representative from the Clybourne Park Improvement Association, serves as a powerful symbol of the systemic racism that attempts to limit their progress.

Family Dynamics and Intergenerational Conflict

The play illuminates the complex dynamics within the Younger family, highlighting the generational

differences in perspective and ambition. The conflicting dreams of Walter Lee and Beneatha, juxtaposed against Mama's wisdom, showcase the tension between the desire for immediate gratification and the need for long-term stability.

The Power of Hope and Resilience

Despite the numerous challenges they face, the Younger family ultimately perseveres. Their resilience, born out of their shared struggles and unwavering determination, embodies the strength of the human spirit in the face of adversity. The play's ending, while not without its complexities, offers a glimmer of hope for the future.

The Enduring Legacy of "A Raisin in the Sun"

Hansberry's "A Raisin in the Sun" remains a vital work of literature, sparking conversations about race, class, and the enduring quest for equality. Its enduring power stems from its relatable characters, its unflinching portrayal of social injustice, and its ultimately hopeful message about the enduring power of family and the human spirit. It continues to inspire audiences to reflect on the persistent challenges facing marginalized communities and the ongoing struggle for justice and equality.

Conclusion:

"A Raisin in the Sun" is more than just a play; it's a powerful testament to the human spirit's ability to persevere in the face of adversity. Its exploration of complex themes, relatable characters, and enduring relevance solidify its place as a cornerstone of American literature and a timeless exploration of the American Dream.

FAQs:

1. What is the significance of the title "A Raisin in the Sun"? The title, derived from Langston Hughes' poem "Harlem," symbolizes the potential that is wasted when dreams are deferred. The raisin, once a vibrant grape, represents the shrunken, dried-up remnants of unrealized aspirations.
2. How does the play portray the role of women? The play showcases strong female characters who challenge traditional gender roles. Ruth and Mama, despite facing societal limitations, demonstrate remarkable resilience and strength in supporting their family. Beneatha represents a new generation challenging patriarchal norms.
3. What is the significance of the Clybourne Park incident? The confrontation with Mr. Lindner represents the blatant racism faced by Black families seeking to move into white neighborhoods. It highlights the systemic barriers to upward mobility and the continued struggle against racial segregation.

4. What are the different dreams of the Younger family members? Each family member has unique dreams: Walter Lee dreams of financial independence through a liquor store; Ruth desires a better life for her family; Beneatha seeks higher education and a career as a doctor; Mama wants to secure a home for her family.

5. How does the play's setting contribute to its overall message? The cramped apartment in Chicago's South Side serves as a powerful symbol of the limitations imposed upon the Younger family by poverty and racial discrimination. The contrast with the house they eventually purchase underscores the significance of homeownership and the pursuit of the American Dream.

a raisin the sun: A Raisin in the Sun Lorraine Hansberry, 2011-11-02 Never before, in the entire history of the American theater, has so much of the truth of Black people's lives been seen on the stage, observed James Baldwin shortly before *A Raisin in the Sun* opened on Broadway in 1959. This edition presents the fully restored, uncut version of Hansberry's landmark work with an introduction by Robert Nemiroff. Lorraine Hansberry's award-winning drama about the hopes and aspirations of a struggling, working-class family living on the South Side of Chicago connected profoundly with the psyche of Black America—and changed American theater forever. The play's title comes from a line in Langston Hughes's poem *Harlem*, which warns that a dream deferred might dry up/like a raisin in the sun. The events of every passing year add resonance to *A Raisin in the Sun*, said *The New York Times*. It is as if history is conspiring to make the play a classic.

a raisin the sun: A Raisin in the Sun Lorraine Hansberry, 2016-11-01 *A Raisin in the Sun* reflects Lorraine Hansberry's childhood experiences in segregated Chicago. This electrifying masterpiece has enthralled audiences and has been heaped with critical accolades. The play that changed American theatre forever - *The New York Times*. Edition Description

a raisin the sun: *A Raisin in the Sun* Lorraine Hansberry, Jim Cocola, 2002 Get your A in gear! They're today's most popular study guides-with everything you need to succeed in school. Written by Harvard students for students, since its inception SparkNotes(TM) has developed a loyal community of dedicated users and become a major education brand. Consumer demand has been so strong that the guides have expanded to over 150 titles. SparkNotes'(TM) motto is Smarter, Better, Faster because: - They feature the most current ideas and themes, written by experts. - They're easier to understand, because the same people who use them have also written them. - The clear writing style and edited content enables students to read through the material quickly, saving valuable time. And with everything covered--context; plot overview; character lists; themes, motifs, and symbols; summary and analysis, key facts; study questions and essay topics; and reviews and resources--you don't have to go anywhere else!

a raisin the sun: *Reimagining A Raisin in the Sun* Rebecca Ann Rugg, Harvey Young, 2012-04-15 This book is a collection of four contemporary plays that reflect the themes of racial and cultural difference of Lorraine Hansberry's 1959 play *A Raisin in the Sun*.

a raisin the sun: Lorraine Hansberry: The Life Behind A Raisin in the Sun Charles J. Shields, 2022-01-18 The moving story of the life of the woman behind *A Raisin in the Sun*, the most widely anthologized, read, and performed play of the American stage, by the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee* Written when she was just twenty-eight, Lorraine Hansberry's landmark *A Raisin in the Sun* is listed by the National Theatre as one of the hundred most significant works of the twentieth century. Hansberry was the first Black woman to have a play performed on Broadway, and the first Black and youngest American playwright to win a New York Critics' Circle Award. Charles J. Shields's authoritative biography of one of the twentieth century's most admired playwrights examines the parts of Lorraine Hansberry's life that have escaped public knowledge: the influence of her upper-class background, her fight for peace and nuclear disarmament, the reason why she embraced Communism during the Cold War, and her dependence on her white husband—her best friend, critic, and promoter. Many of the identity issues about class,

sexuality, and race that she struggled with are relevant and urgent today. This dramatic telling of a passionate life—a very American life through self-reinvention—uses previously unpublished interviews with close friends in politics and theater, privately held correspondence, and deep research to reconcile old mysteries and raise new questions about a life not fully described until now.

a raisin the sun: Claudette Colvin Phillip Hoose, 2009-01-20 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD WINNER AND NEWBERY HONOR BOOK ● Before Rosa Parks, there was 15-year-old Claudette Colvin. Read the first in-depth account of an important yet largely unknown civil rights figure in this multi-award winning, mega-selling biography from the incomparable Phillip Hoose. “When it comes to justice, there is no easy way to get it. You can't sugarcoat it. You have to take a stand and say, ‘This is not right.’” —Claudette Colvin On March 2, 1955, an impassioned teenager, fed up with the daily injustices of Jim Crow segregation, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin found herself shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders. Undaunted, a year later she dared to challenge segregation again as a key plaintiff in *Browder v. Gayle*, the landmark case that struck down the segregation laws of Montgomery and swept away the legal underpinnings of the Jim Crow South. Based on extensive interviews with Claudette Colvin and many others, Phillip Hoose presents the first major biography of a remarkable civil rights hero, skillfully weaving her riveting story into the fabric of the historic Montgomery bus boycott and court case that would change the course of American history. Awards and Praise for Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice National Book Award Winner A Newbery Honor Book A YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults Finalist A Robert F. Sibert Honor Book Amazon.com 100 Biographies and Memoirs to Read in a Lifetime “Hoose's book, based in part on interviews with Colvin and people who knew her—finally gives her the credit she deserves.” —The New York Times Book Review “Claudette's eloquent bravery is unforgettable.” —The Wall Street Journal □ “This inspiring title shows the incredible difference that a single young person can make.” —Booklist, starred review

a raisin the sun: Twelve Angry Men Reginald Rose, 2006-08-29 A landmark American drama that inspired a classic film and a Broadway revival—featuring an introduction by David Mamet A blistering character study and an examination of the American melting pot and the judicial system that keeps it in check, *Twelve Angry Men* holds at its core a deeply patriotic faith in the U.S. legal system. The play centers on Juror Eight, who is at first the sole holdout in an 11-1 guilty vote. Eight sets his sights not on proving the other jurors wrong but rather on getting them to look at the situation in a clear-eyed way not affected by their personal prejudices or biases. Reginald Rose deliberately and carefully peels away the layers of artifice from the men and allows a fuller picture to form of them—and of America, at its best and worst. After the critically acclaimed teleplay aired in 1954, this landmark American drama went on to become a cinematic masterpiece in 1957 starring Henry Fonda, for which Rose wrote the adaptation. More recently, *Twelve Angry Men* had a successful, and award-winning, run on Broadway. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

a raisin the sun: The Guest Book Sarah Blake, 2019-05-07 Instant New York Times Bestseller Longlisted for Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence 2020 New England Society Book Award Winner for Fiction “The Guest Book is monumental in a way that few novels dare attempt.” —The Washington Post The thought-provoking new novel by New York Times bestselling author Sarah Blake An exquisitely written, poignant family saga that illuminates the great divide, the gulf that separates the rich and poor, black and white, Protestant and Jew. Spanning three generations, *The Guest Book* deftly examines the life and legacy of one unforgettable family as they navigate the

evolving social and political landscape from Crockett's Island, their family retreat off the coast of Maine. Blake masterfully lays bare the memories and mistakes each generation makes while coming to terms with what it means to inherit the past.

a raisin the sun: A Reader's Guide to Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun Pamela Loos, 2008-01-01 Presents a critique and analysis of A Raisin in the Sun, discussing the plot, themes, dramatic devices, and major characters in the play, and includes a brief overview of Hansberry's other works.

a raisin the sun: Raisin Judd Woldin, Robert Nemiroff, Charlotte Zaltzberg, Robert Brittan, 1978 Based on Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun. Musical Drama / 9m, 6f, chorus and extras / Unit set This winner of Tony and Grammy awards as Best Musical ran for three years on Broadway and enjoyed a record breaking national tour. A proud family's quest for a better life meets conflicts that span three generations and set the stage for a drama rich in emotion and laughter. Taking place on Chicago's Southside, it explodes in song, dance, drama and comedy. Pure magic ... dazzling! Tremem

a raisin the sun: Les Blancs: The Collected Last Plays Lorraine Hansberry, 1994-12-13 Here are Lorraine Hansberry's last three plays--Les Blancs, The Drinking Gourd, and What Use Are Flowers?--representing the capstone of her achievement. Includes a new preface by Jewell Gresham Nemiroff and a revised introduction by Margaret B. Wilkerson.

a raisin the sun: Gender in Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun Gary Wiener, 2011-02-10 The landmark play A Raisin in the Sun takes its title from a Langston Hughes poem which poses the questions What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun? Focusing on a working-class African-American family in Chicago who save enough to purchase either a business in a black neighborhood or a house in a white neighborhood, the play exposes issues of racism and gender as the women of the family make important decisions that push against both racial and gender lines. This volume discusses gender in the play, looking at how the female characters fight both racism and male chauvinism, how the play is dominated by strong female characters, and how characters resist the stereotype of the emasculating female. The book also presents contemporary perspectives on race and feminism in the twenty-first century. Contributors include Barbara Ehrenreich, Jewelle L. Gomez, and Sharon Friedman.

a raisin the sun: Lorraine Hansberry's The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window Lorraine Hansberry, 1986 This is the probing, hilarious and provocative story of Sidney, a disenchanted Greenwich Village intellectual, his wife Iris, an aspiring actress, and their colorful circle of friends and relations. Set against the shenanigans of a stormy political campaign, the play follows its characters in their unorthodox quests for meaningful lives in an age of corruption, alienation and cynicism. With compassion, humor and poignancy, the author examines questions concerning the fragility of love, morality and ethics, interracial relationships, drugs, rebellion, conformity and especially withdrawal from or commitment to the world.

a raisin the sun: A Raisin in The Sun Black Theatre Canada Archives, Lorraine Hansberry, 1980

a raisin the sun: Looking for Lorraine Imani Perry, 2018-09-18 Winner of the 2019 PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award for Biography Winner of the Lambda Literary Award for LGBTQ Nonfiction Winner of the Shilts-Grahn Triangle Award for Lesbian Nonfiction Winner of the 2019 Phi Beta Kappa Christian Gauss Award A New York Times Notable Book of 2018 A revealing portrait of one of the most gifted and charismatic, yet least understood, Black artists and intellectuals of the twentieth century. Lorraine Hansberry, who died at thirty-four, was by all accounts a force of nature. Although best-known for her work A Raisin in the Sun, her short life was full of extraordinary experiences and achievements, and she had an unflinching commitment to social justice, which brought her under FBI surveillance when she was barely in her twenties. While her close friends and contemporaries, like James Baldwin and Nina Simone, have been rightly celebrated, her story has been diminished and relegated to one work—until now. In 2018, Hansberry will get the recognition she deserves with the PBS American Masters documentary "Lorraine Hansberry: Sighted

Eyes/Feeling Heart” and Imani Perry’s multi-dimensional, illuminating biography, *Looking for Lorraine*. After the success of *A Raisin in the Sun*, Hansberry used her prominence in myriad ways: challenging President Kennedy and his brother to take bolder stances on Civil Rights, supporting African anti-colonial leaders, and confronting the romantic racism of the Beat poets and Village hipsters. Though she married a man, she identified as lesbian and, risking censure and the prospect of being outed, joined one of the nation’s first lesbian organizations. Hansberry associated with many activists, writers, and musicians, including Malcolm X, Langston Hughes, Duke Ellington, Paul Robeson, W.E.B. Du Bois, among others. *Looking for Lorraine* is a powerful insight into Hansberry’s extraordinary life—a life that was tragically cut far too short. A Black Caucus of the American Library Association Honor Book for Nonfiction A 2019 Pauli Murray Book Prize Finalist

a raisin the sun: *A Raisin in the Sun* , 1996-03-21 The author writes of her childhood experiences with racism.

a raisin the sun: *Sally's Baking Addiction* Sally McKenney, 2016-10-11 Updated with a brand-new selection of desserts and treats, the fully illustrated Sally's Baking Addiction cookbook offers more than 80 scrumptious recipes for indulging your sweet tooth—featuring a chapter of healthier dessert options, including some vegan and gluten-free recipes. It's no secret that Sally McKenney loves to bake. Her popular blog, Sally's Baking Addiction, has become a trusted source for fellow dessert lovers who are also eager to bake from scratch. Sally's famous recipes include award-winning Salted Caramel Dark Chocolate Cookies, No-Bake Peanut Butter Banana Pie, delectable Dark Chocolate Butterscotch Cupcakes, and yummy Marshmallow Swirl S'mores Fudge. Find tried-and-true sweet recipes for all kinds of delicious: Breads & Muffins Breakfasts Brownies & Bars Cakes, Pies & Crisps Candy & Sweet Snacks Cookies Cupcakes Healthier Choices With tons of simple, easy-to-follow recipes, you get all of the sweet with none of the fuss! Hungry for more? Learn to create even more irresistible sweets with Sally's Candy Addiction and Sally's Cookie Addiction.

a raisin the sun: *The Westing Game* Ellen Raskin, 2020-10-13 A Newbery Medal Winner For over thirty-five years, Ellen Raskin's Newbery Medal-winning *The Westing Game* has been an enduring favorite. This highly inventive mystery involves sixteen people who are invited to the reading of Samuel W. Westing's will. They could become millionaires—it all depends on how they play the tricky and dangerous Westing game, a game involving blizzards, burglaries, and bombings! Ellen Raskin has created a remarkable cast of characters in a puzzle-knotted, word-twisting plot filled with humor, intrigue, and suspense. Winner of the Newbery Medal Winner of the Boston Globe/Horn Book Award An ALA Notable Book A School Library Journal One Hundred Books That Shaped the Century A supersharp mystery...confoundingly clever, and very funny. —Booklist, starred review Great fun for those who enjoy illusion, word play, or sleight of hand. —The New York Times Book Review A fascinating medley of word games, disguises, multiple aliases, and subterfuges—a demanding but rewarding book. —The Horn Book

a raisin the sun: *A Raisin in the Sun* Emily Hutchinson, 2000 A play about a struggling black family living on Chicago's South Side and the impact of an unexpected insurance bequest. Each family member sees the bequest as the means of realizing dreams and of escape from gringing frustrations.

a raisin the sun: *Magnolia Table* Joanna Gaines, Marah Stets, 2018-04-24 #1 New York Times Bestseller *Magnolia Table* is infused with Joanna Gaines' warmth and passion for all things family, prepared and served straight from the heart of her home, with recipes inspired by dozens of Gaines family favorites and classic comfort selections from the couple's new Waco restaurant, Magnolia Table. Jo believes there's no better way to celebrate family and friendship than through the art of togetherness, celebrating tradition, and sharing a great meal. *Magnolia Table* includes 125 classic recipes—from breakfast, lunch, and dinner to small plates, snacks, and desserts—presenting a modern selection of American classics and personal family favorites. Complemented by her love for her garden, these dishes also incorporate homegrown, seasonal produce at the peak of its flavor. Inside *Magnolia Table*, you'll find recipes the whole family will enjoy, such as: Chicken Pot Pie Chocolate Chip Cookies Asparagus and Fontina Quiche Brussels Sprouts with Crispy Bacon, Toasted

Pecans, and Balsamic Reduction Peach Caprese Overnight French Toast White Cheddar Bisque Fried Chicken with Sticky Poppy Seed Jam Lemon Pie Mac and Cheese Full of personal stories and beautiful photos, Magnolia Table is an invitation to share a seat at the table with Joanna Gaines and her family.

a raisin the sun: Tell Me How Long the Train's Been Gone James Baldwin, 2013-09-17 A major work of American literature from a major American writer that powerfully portrays the anguish of being Black in a society that at times seems poised on the brink of total racial war. Baldwin is one of the few genuinely indispensable American writers. —Saturday Review At the height of his theatrical career, the actor Leo Proudhammer is nearly felled by a heart attack. As he hovers between life and death, Baldwin shows the choices that have made him enviably famous and terrifyingly vulnerable. For between Leo's childhood on the streets of Harlem and his arrival into the intoxicating world of the theater lies a wilderness of desire and loss, shame and rage. An adored older brother vanishes into prison. There are love affairs with a white woman and a younger black man, each of whom will make irresistible claims on Leo's loyalty. *Tell Me How Long the Train's Been Gone* is overpowering in its vitality and extravagant in the intensity of its feeling.

a raisin the sun: Clybourne Park Bruce Norris, 2011 An acerbically brilliant satire that explores the fault line between race and property. In 1959, Russ and Bev are selling their desirable two-bed for a knock-down price, enabling the first black family to move into the neighbourhood and alarming the cosy white urbanites of Clybourne Park, Chicago. In 2009 the same property is being bought by Lindsey and Steve, a young white couple, whose plan to raze the house and start again is met with a similar response. As the arguments rage and tensions rise, ghosts and racial resentments are once more uncovered... Bruce Norris's play *Clybourne Park* was first performed at Playwrights Horizons, New York City, in February 2010. The play received its European premiere at the Royal Court Theatre, London, in September 2010, transferring to Wyndham's Theatre in the West End in February 2011. The play received numerous awards, including the London Evening Standard Award for Best Play, the Critics Circle Award for Best New Play, the Olivier Award for Best New Play, the Tony Award for Best Play and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

a raisin the sun: Faith, Hope, and Ivy June Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, 2009-06-09 When push comes to shove, two Kentucky girls find strength in each other. Ivy June Mosely and Catherine Combs, two girls from different parts of Kentucky, are participating in the first seventh-grade student exchange program between their schools. The girls will stay at each other's homes, attend school together, and record their experience in their journals. Catherine and her family have a beautiful home with plenty of space. Since Ivy June's house is crowded, she lives with her grandparents. Her Pappaw works in the coal mines supporting four generations of kinfolk. Ivy June can't wait until he leaves that mine forever and retires. As the girls get closer, they discover they're more alike than different, especially when they face the terror of not knowing what's happening to those they love most.

a raisin the sun: The Scarred Letter Val Muller, 2014-06-24 Heather Primm never anticipated that a single blog post could ruin her life. Heather's scoop about steroid use by key players on the school football team sets off an investigation that strips the Orchard Valley Thunderbolts of their state title and earns Heather a coveted journalism prize. Hated by those involved in the scandal, despised by jealous members of the newspaper staff, ignored by her newly-popular ex-boyfriend, and even berated by her mother, Heather is attacked and a chilling T is carved into her face. Now stigmatized as a traitor, she becomes the object of scorn for nearly all of Orchard Valley High. But when the school offers to send her to a private academy to hush up the matter, Heather is forced to make a decision. Should she refuse to allow fear to control her life by holding to the truth, or accept the chance to escape and build a new life? Written by a veteran English teacher, *The Scarred Letter* weaves themes from Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* into an accessible, intelligent tale of modern isolation and a young woman's quest for truth and acceptance. Authentic reboot of Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* for today's readers. Heather Primm publishes the truth on her blog and pays an appalling price. It's up to Heather's younger sister to remind her what's true

and what's not--and help her find a way forward. A powerful book. -- Adele Abbot, author, *Of Machines & Magics* and *Postponing Armageddon* High school becomes the perfect substitute for Hawthorne's Puritan society in this accessible take on *The Scarlet Letter*. Surrounded by ruthless cliques and wannabe outsiders, Heather finds out just how hard standing up for yourself and your beliefs can be. A powerful message for readers of all ages. -- Sheri S. Levy, author, *Seven Days to Goodbye*

a raisin the sun: *It's Raining Tacos!* Parry Gripp, 2021-06-22 Wildly fun and full of laugh-out-loud antics, this interactive sing-along is a zany romp sure to capture fans of *Giraffes Can't Dance* and *Dragons Love Tacos*. Shell we dance? Taco-bout irresistible! Jam out to the catchy, toe-tapping tune "Raining Tacos" from YouTube sensation Parry Gripp, featuring everyone's favorite treat! This spec-taco-ular, goofy song, with new, never-before-sung lyrics, is perfect for sharing, so grab a few friends—young or old—and get ready to crunch your way to a good time! It's raining tacos, from out of the sky. Tacos, no need to ask why. Just open your mouth and close your eyes. It's raining tacos!

a raisin the sun: *The Girl Who Flew Away* Val Muller, 2017-03-07 No good deed goes unpunished when freshman Steffie Brenner offers to give her awkward new neighbor a ride home after her first day at school. When her older sister Ali stops at a local park to apply for a job, Steffie and Madison slip out of the car to explore the park--and Madison vanishes. Already in trouble for a speeding ticket, Ali insists that Steffie say nothing about Madison's disappearance. Even when Madison's mother comes looking for her. Even when the police question them. Some secrets are hard to hide, though--especially with Madison's life on the line. As she struggles between coming clean or going along with her manipulative sister's plan, Steffie begins to question if she or anyone else is really who she thought they were. After all, the Steffie she used to know would never lie about being the last person to see Madison alive--nor would she abandon a friend in the woods: alone, cold, injured, or even worse. But when Steffie learns an even deeper secret about her own past, a missing person seems like the least of her worries...

a raisin the sun: *A Raisin in the Sun* , 1992

a raisin the sun: *Rabbit Angstrom* John Updike, 1995-10-17 When we first met him in *Rabbit, Run* (1960), the book that established John Updike as a major novelist, Harry (Rabbit) Angstrom is playing basketball with some boys in an alley in Pennsylvania during the tail end of the Eisenhower era, reliving for a moment his past as a star high school athlete. Athleticism of a different sort is on display throughout these four magnificent novels—the athleticism of an imagination possessed of the ability to lay bare, with a seemingly effortless animal grace, the enchantments and disenchantments of life. Updike revisited his hero toward the end of each of the following decades in the second half of this American century; and in each of the subsequent novels, as Rabbit, his wife, Janice, his son, Nelson, and the people around them grow, these characters take on the lineaments of our common existence. In prose that is one of the glories of contemporary literature, Updike has chronicled the frustrations and ambiguous triumphs, the longuers, the loves and frenzies, the betrayals and reconciliations of our era. He has given us our representative American story. This *Rabbit Angstrom* volume is composed of the following novels: *Rabbit, Run*; *Rabbit Redux*; *Rabbit is Rich*; and *Rabbit at Rest*.

a raisin the sun: *Diffordsguide Cocktails* Simon Difford, 2013 Contains over 3000 illustrated cocktail recipes.

a raisin the sun: *The Panther and the Lash* Langston Hughes, 2011-10-26 Hughes's last collection of poems commemorates the experience of Black Americans in a voice that no reader could fail to hear—the last testament of a great American writer who grappled fearlessly and artfully with the most compelling issues of his time. "Langston Hughes is a titanic figure in 20th-century American literature ... a powerful interpreter of the American experience." —The Philadelphia Inquirer From the publication of his first book in 1926, Langston Hughes was America's acknowledged poet of color. Here, Hughes's voice—sometimes ironic, sometimes bitter, always powerful—is more pointed than ever before, as he explicitly addresses the racial politics of the

sixties in such pieces as *Prime, Motto, Dream Deferred*, Frederick Douglas: 1817-1895, *Still Here*, Birmingham Sunday. History, Slave, Warning, and Daybreak in Alabama.

a raisin the sun: *A Memory for Wonders* Veronica Namoyo Le Goulard, 1993 Here for the first time is a captivating autobiography of a French girl raised in the wild Moroccan frontier by her communist parents who fled France and vowed that no one would speak to her of God and influence the development of her mind with oppressive superstition. Everything in her education, environment and training was targeted toward making her a perfect product of Marxist atheism. She sucked anti-Catholicism with her mother's milk. But God had other plans for Lucette. Emotionally neglected by her parents, Lucette became a difficult child leading a colorful life full of mischievous adventure all the while experiencing an unutterable loneliness. But the Hound of Heaven was gently pursuing her. At the age of three, upon witnessing the overwhelming beauty of a sunset after a violent sirocco sand storm, she gained the unshakable certainty that this beauty was created, and that there was a God. She began to pray. That was the first link in a chain of remarkable events that grace alone could forge, which led her to embrace the faith and become a Poor Clare nun in Algiers. Disowned by her parents, she put all her trust in Him for whom all things are possible. Her faith was rewarded with a dramatic answer to the prayers of her heart. Lucette, now Mother Veronica Namoyo, is an Abbess and foundress of two flourishing monasteries in Africa.

a raisin the sun: *Cora Cassidy and the Craven Corgi* Val Muller, 2014-11-08 Raven the corgi is afraid of . . . everything! During a snowstorm, Raven cowers in fear, remembering the scariest parts of each season: snow-monsters, b-b-b-aths, sea creatures, whistling wind . . . Meanwhile, Raven's person, Cora, comforts the pup, remembering the best each season has to offer. Living in fear, Raven is unable to enjoy the magic that each day brings. Can Cora's optimism convince the corgi to find warmth, love, and joy in each season and each day? Written in verse and beautifully illustrated, *Cora Cassidy and the Craven Corgi* is perfect for reading aloud at bedtime. Inspired by real-life fraidy-dog Yoda, the book was written by author of the Corgi Capers mystery series with the belief that we can find something magic every day of our lives.

a raisin the sun: *A Raisin in the Sun* Lorraine Hansberry, 1958

a raisin the sun: *Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun* Lorraine Hansberry, 1988

a raisin the sun: *Faulkner's Apprentice* Val Muller, 2013-04 Lorelei Cecelia Franklin broke a twenty-year streak of bad luck when she won the L. Cameron Faulkner fiction contest. Apprenticed to the reclusive and famous author, Lorei will spend three weeks with the master of horror himself in the secluded mountains of Virginia. On her way to Faulkner's mansion, Lorei meets a leathery man who snares souls that desire too much, and everything in the mansion screams warnings against him. But with her lust for Faulkner, her appetite for fame, and her wish to protect her ailing mother, Lorei's chances for escape are slim.

a raisin the sun: *Thronebreakers* Rebecca Coffindaffer, 2021-10-12 Perfect for fans of *Aurora Rising*, *The Hunger Games*, and *Three Dark Crowns*, this electrifying duology closer is jam-packed with tension and thrills that will hook readers from its first page. Alyssa Farshot never wanted to rule the empire. But to honor her uncle's dying wish, she participated in the crownchase, a race across the empire's 1,001 planets to find the royal seal and win the throne. Alyssa tried to help her friend, Coy, win the crownchase, but just as victory was within their grasp, Edgar Voles killed Coy—and claimed the seal for himself. Broken-hearted over her friend's death, Alyssa is hell-bent on revenge. But Edgar is well protected in the kingship. Alyssa will have to rally rivals, friends, and foes from across the empire to take him down and change the course of the galaxy.

a raisin the sun: *Crownchasers* Rebecca Coffindaffer, 2020-09-29 A deadly race across 1,001 planets will determine more than just the fate of the empire. This explosive first book in a duology jam-packed with tension and thrills is perfect for fans of *The Hunger Games*, *Aurora Rising*, and *Three Dark Crowns*. Alyssa Farshot has spent her whole life trying to outrun her family legacy, even leaving behind the Kingship and her uncle, the emperor, for a life of exploring. But when her dying uncle announces a crownchase—a search for the royal seal hidden in the empire that will determine the next ruler—Alyssa is thrust into her greatest, most dangerous adventure yet.

a raisin the sun: The Sunset Limited Cormac McCarthy, 2011-02-04 Deft, spare, and full of artful tension, *The Sunset Limited* is a beautifully crafted play from the legendary Cormac McCarthy, author of *No Country for Old Men* and *Blood Meridian*. 'The Sunset Limited grips from the very first page' - Financial Times A startling encounter on a New York subway platform leads two strangers to a run-down tenement where a life or death decision must be made. In that small apartment the two men, known as 'Black' and 'White', begin a conversatino that leads each back through his own history. White is a professor whose seemingly enviable existence of relative ease has left him nonetheless in despair. Black, an ex-con in recovery for drug addiction, is the more hopeful of the men. He is, however, desperate to convince White of the power of faith - while White is desperate to deny it. Between them, they hope to discover the meaning of life itself. Praise for Cormac McCarthy: 'McCarthy worked close to some religious impulse, his books were terrifying and absolute' - Anne Enright, author of *The Green Road* and *The Wren*, *The Wren* 'His prose takes on an almost biblical quality, hallucinatory in its effect and evangelical in its power' - Stephen King, author of *The Shining* and the *Dark Tower* series '[I]n presenting the darker human impulses in his rich prose, [McCarthy] showed readers the necessity of facing up to existence' - Annie Proulx, author of *Brokeback Mountain*

a raisin the sun: Eat Your Peas Kes Gray, Nick Sharratt, 2008 Mom offers increasingly fantastic bribes to get Daisy to eat her peas, but what Daisy actually wants is quite simple.

a raisin the sun: Artisan Sourdough Made Simple Emilie Raffa, 2017-10-24 The easy way to bake bread at home—all you need is FLOUR, WATER and SALT to get started! Begin your sourdough journey with the bestselling beginner's book on sourdough baking—over 150,000 copies sold! Many bakers speak of their sourdough starter as if it has a magical life of its own, so it can be intimidating to those new to the sourdough world; fortunately with *Artisan Sourdough Made Simple*, Emilie Raffa removes the fear and proves that baking with sourdough is easy, and can fit into even a working parent's schedule! Any new baker is inevitably hit with question after question. Emilie has the answers. As a professionally trained chef and avid home baker, she uses her experience to guide readers through the science and art of sourdough. With step-by-step master recipe guides, readers learn how to create and care for their own starters, plus they get more than 60 unique recipes to bake a variety of breads that suit their every need. Featured recipes include: - Roasted Garlic and Rosemary Bread - Cinnamon Raisin Swirl - Blistered Asiago Rolls with Sweet Apples and Rosemary - Multigrain Sandwich Bread - No-Knead Tomato Basil Focaccia - Raspberry Gingersnap Twist - Sunday Morning Bagels - and so many more! With the continuing popularity of the whole foods movement, home cooks are returning to the ancient practice of bread baking, and sourdough is rising to the forefront. Through fermentation, sourdough bread is easier on digestion—often enough for people who are sensitive to gluten—and healthier. *Artisan Sourdough Made Simple* gives everyone the knowledge and confidence to join the fun, from their first rustic loaf to beyond. This book has 65 recipes and 65 full-page photographs.

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