



Great Black Writers: Biographies

By M. K. Fullen

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This book includes short biographies of six well-known African American writers: Ida Wells-Barnett, Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, Alex Haley, James Baldwin, and Lorraine Hansberry. Each biographical sketch outlines the connection between the writer's life experiences and his or her writing, and explores the challenges each individual faced and overcame in the process of becoming a writer. This historical fact-based book may inspire children in the higher elementary grades and adult new readers to have a greater appreciation for what they read--and perhaps encourage some to become writers themselves.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 5-8-Fullen outlines the lives of six writers in various genres and fields and discusses their contributions. The biographical sketches, generally eight or nine pages in length, consider Ida Wells-Barnett, Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, Alex Haley, James Baldwin, and Lorraine Hansberry. Each profile begins with a quote by the subject and includes at least one black-and-white photo; unfortunately, the pictures are often dark and/or blurry. While a bibliography of titles on the individual authors concludes this slim volume, the conversations and quotes are unattributed. More complete information on these writers is available elsewhere.

Carol Jones Collins, Columbia High School, Maplewood, NJ

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About the Author

Marilyn K. Fullen is a case manager for the Homelessness Project in Seattle, Washington, where she advocates for services for homeless single parents and their children. As a writer, she is committed to telling the stories of people who often find themselves voiceless. She knows the only way to freedom is to teach the truth.

Users Review

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