

Aasp 471 final exam



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Main Characters in The Autobiography of an Ex Colored Man Plot of

Autobiography of an Ex Colored Man Did the protagonist fit the bill for a tragic mulatto in TAECM? Explain. What was the gaze in TAECM? What are the 4 "gifts" referenced in Johnson's "the autobiography of an ex-colored man" that counteract theories of black inferiority? Cakewalk

Ragtime

Jubilee (spirituals)

Uncle Remus stories Define signifying and provide two examples from two different texts we've read. Signifying is a form of verbal wordplay, that AA's contrived in order to show their wit and express that they still had power despite their subordinate position in the social hierarchy.

The story of the lion and the monkey.

ex. In Autobiography, Johnson signifies on DuBois' "Souls" when he says "the veil has been drawn aside" in the preface; he is using the idea of the veil DuBois created

What role if any did the pastoral play in TAECM? Main Characters in

Quicksand Plot of Quicksand Did Helga fit the bill for a tragic mulatto in

Quicksand? Explain. Were there gothic themes that emerged in Quicksand. If so, give examples. What was the gaze in Quicksand? 3 events led to New Negro-Red Summer 1919

-Great Migration

-World War I & portrayal of black masculinity (because men were fighting in the war now) The cult of true womanhood

How you're supposed to be as a woman...

Purity

Piety

Domesticity

Submissive How did Dubois and Locke feel about Toomer and his depiction of black women. Dubois and Locke praised Toomer for depicting women this way because it was accurate

Black men also did not fit into hetero mold because they were not considered the man of the household. Usually when working for the white man, they lived with the white man. Aspects of literary modernism • A break from conventional story telling (e. g., chronology, causality, a centralized point-of-view, and verisimilitude)

- A fresh examination of the world (e. g., fragmentation, multiple points-of-view, stream-of-consciousness, focus on interiority, juxtaposition, shocking imagery)

- Experiments in form and style (e. g., mixing genres and media)

- A concern with language and its limits in terms of representation

Ex. Cane depicting women as sexual objects What was " Portrait in Georgia" about? Black man being lynched, simultaneously praising the beauty of a white woman. This juxtaposition of the ugliness of lynching with the beauty of a woman was common in the modernist era. What was " If I Must Die" about? What is Mythical Realism? Give an example from at least two books Uses the elements of spirituality (voodoo) to embellish the writing. To make it seem like the characters are going through the spiritual theory.

Ex: When their Eyes Were Watching God --> the pear tree, page 10.

Ex: Uncle Tom's

Define tragic mulatto and provide an example from Johnson's "

Autobiography of an ex-colored man" Definition

A Biracial, multiracial, or " mixed-race" figure

Usually described as fitting into neither the " white" nor the " black" worlds or as a " victim" of a society divided by race

Often depicted in terms of pathology (e. g. self-loathing, depressed, promiscuous, substance abuser, suicidal)

Often used to depict the color line as permeable and inconstant

Often used to depict race as a social construct

Example

The Narrator in AECM his internal conflict of being mixed race, his gambling addiction, choosing to pass as white. Given Locke's description of the New Negro, provide a brief summary of what the New Negro is, and provide an example of a character (from one of the novels we've read in class) that meets this description

The New Negro is Dubois' brainchild that reflects the idea of racial uplift via art. Using one's talents (talented tenth) in order to uplift the race.

Example

Shiny in AECM Contrast the meaning of the " gaze" between two texts (ex: Hurston's novel vs. Johnson's novel, vs. Smoke Lilies and Jade, etc). Hurston (TEWWG)-

Johnson (AECM)-

Nugent (SLJ)-

Larsen (QUICKSAND)-

The Ethics of Living Jim Crow: An Autobiographical Sketch Summary Tells the narrative of Richard Wright and provisional tales and regulations about how to survive as a black man in the Jim Crow period.

Event #1: War with the white kids across the street. Here is his first experience of white privilege. When his mom returns and is not sympathetic of his encounter with the white neighbors, he resents her for it.

Lesson #2: Richard makes the mistake of not formally addressing his boss as Mr. and almost pays the price for it with his life.

Lesson #3: Richard witnesses a old black women dragged into a shop and brutally beaten. When she staggers out of the shop after her assault the police arrest her for being drunk. Later on he accounts this experience to his friends, and they nonchalantly say that she is lucky that they didn't rape her as well. This demonstrates the lack of masculinity and autonomy that is influenced by the Jim Crow Era.

Lesson #4: Richard is making a delivery when a car full of young men offer him a ride. They offer him a drink and when he refuses they throw the bottle at his head and tell him that he is lucky that it was them he disrespected or else he would have been a "dead n-word."

Lesson #5: Richard works as a hall-boy at a hotel where he serves a lot of guests who have white prostitutes stay the night. One day the guest that Richard serves thinks that he is looking at the white women that he is with and threatens his life.

Lesson #6: A black boy who is caught with a white prostitute is castrated and the town remarks that he got off easy.

Lesson #7: A white watchman slaps the butt of a black maid that Richard is walking home with. He walks in front of her and she runs to catch up with him. She assures Richard that there was nothing he could have done, but he avoids her gaze for the rest of the walk. Richard is ashamed, once again this is an example of how institutional racism during the Jim Crow Era severely impacted black masculinity.

Lesson #8: Richard is working at a factory at this point. He is on an elevator while holding a lot of packages when a white man removes his hat for them. He does not know how to properly thank the man without offending him, so instead he pretends to drop his packages to get out of the tricky situation.

Big Boy Leaves Home- The story begins with Big Boy, Buck Lester and Bobo skipping school and ends with them getting in a fight. Bug Boy ends the fight by choking the other boys and explains how to win a fight.

- The boy trespass onto Old Man Harvey's property and go skinny dipping in his lake. They spot a white women on the shore watching them and jump out to grab their clothes and flee the scene. The woman calls out to her husband and he shoots two out of the four boys. Big Boy and Bobo are able to over power the man and eventually Big Boy is forced to shoot and kill him.

- Big Boy and Bobo go back to their relatives and Big Boys parents devise a plan to help him escape to Chicago.

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