

Native son by richard wright

Literature



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Civil societies denounce and despise crime and stand by the position that criminals must be made to answer for their offenses. If the literary piece was merely an ordinary factual account of the incidents involving Bigger and his infractions, the expected conclusion would be that Bigger deserved the death penalty. This was not what the author wanted to pass on. ...

It is as if to say that poverty which drives poor people to commit felonies in order to survive is the fault of the government because the latter has the full responsibility to provide jobs or employment. Except for relatively few exceptions, citizens who are gainfully engaged will not have space in their thoughts to entertain the idea of violating the law for material reasons. Nobody wants to go to jail and be deprived of liberty.

In the book, racial inequality is stressed even though in a very discreet and subtle manner which characteristics demonstrate the skill and talent of the author in forcefully giving out the message without being confrontational. Bigger is seen as a victim of discrimination perpetrated by white people. One fact that exhibited this was the renting out to the Negro tenants the flats which were rat-infested and presumably not well and fit for human inhabiting. Outside of those undesirable abodes, the black occupants were not allowed. Bigger lived in one of those places with his family. Incidentally, the landlord was Mr. Dalton who later turned out to be Bigger's employer for whom he worked as a chauffeur.

When Bigger was hired as a driver for the family of Mr. Dalton, he became totally amazed by the treatment. He was allowed to mix with the members of the household. He was given a room of his own, a privilege that he never had in his life before. His amazement reached a point of confusion. He possibly could not believe that there was a world free of discrimination where a Negro

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laborer like him would be afforded comfort he did not expect. He never would have thought that equality and uniformity in societies could happen or were likely to happen.