I know why the caged bird sings



I know why the caged bird sings – Paper Example

I Know Why the Caged Bird SingsBy: Maya Angelou ? I think that the book, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, was chosen to be on the recommended list of summer reading, because it is about Maya Angelou and her experiences during her childhood. Maya Angelou is an important leader, poet, and author. She was also a very important activist in the civil rights movement. ? The book provides us with the perspective on life during the civil war, and gives us insight into history. It gives the reader context on how life was for Maya Angelou during her childhood, and the things that shaped her in to the person she is today.

Ms. Angelou tells the story as a child, and then thinking back on it as an adult, so you understand how she felt at that moment in time, and then how she feels after years of thinking about the times and experiences custom thesis writing service . ? We can understand how people felt during that time, and how that may affect how they are today.

We can learn about what past mistakes we have made, and can help to shape a better future. It also helps to see how prejudices affect our thinking, and how we dream to make our lives better. ? Maya??[™]s parents divorce when she is three years old and decide to send Maya and her older brother to live with their grandmother in rural Stamps, Arkansas.

Their grandmother runs the only store in the black part of Stamps and becomes Maya??[™]s childhood Role model. ? Maya??[™]s dad comes to Stamps unexpectedly and takes her and her brother to live with their mother in St. Louis, Missouri, when she is only eight years old. Maya??[™]s mom is beautiful and lives a crazy life working in gambling parlors. Maya??[™]s mom, Vivian, has a boyfriend named Mr. Freeman. Mr. Freeman molests and rapes Maya, one early morning.

They go to court and Maya ends up lying on the stand, and Mr. Freeman was found guilty and sentenced to one year and one day. Later that night, Mr. Freeman is beaten to death, maybe by Maya??[™]s relatives.

? After Mr. Freeman??™s death, Maya feels guilty and ashamed of being abused and she feels responsible for his death, because she lied in court. Maya starts to believe that she has become a puppet for the devil, and stops talking to everyone besides her brother, Bailey.

Believing that she has become a mouthpiece for the devil, Maya stops speaking to everyone except Bailey. Maya??™s family believes she is suffering from post-rape syndrome, so they accept her silence at first. Maya??™s silence soon makes her family think she is being rude and disrespectful, which results in sending her and Bailey back to live with her grandmother in Stamps. ? Maya meets Mrs. Flowers, who is supposed to help cure her silence. Mrs. Flowers makes her cookies, and gives her books to read aloud.

Maya begins making progress, and is doing very well. She then tells Maya she needs to find a poem and memorize it so she can recite it aloud. Maya is very excited, and when she??[™]s sees her grandma and brother at the store, she finally uses her voice and says??? by the way,??? which upsets her grandmother who then whips her. ? When Maya was ten, she has to get a job working for a white woman, Mrs.

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Cullinan. Mrs. Cullinan is not very nice to Maya, and decides she is going to call her Mary because it??™s easier. Maya wanted to quit her job, but her mother would not let her. So she decides to upset Mrs.

Cullinan, so that she will get fired. Maya breaks Mrs. Cullinan??[™]s most treasured possession, her fine china, which makes her Mrs. Cullinan use a racist remark. Over the next few years, Maya??[™]s grandmother saves money to send Maya and Bailey to California to live with their mother. ? Maya was then sent to live with her mother in Oakland , California when she was only 13 years old. Maya??[™]s mom gets married to a man named Daddy Clidell, and Maya and her family move with him to San Francisco. Maya starts to feel relaxed and enjoy her home life.

Maya is invited to spend a summer with her father, Big Bailey, and decides to go. ? Big Bailey has a new girlfriend named Dolores, who is mean to Maya, and does not like her. One day Maya and Delores get into an argument about a comment that she makes about Maya??[™]s mom. Maya slaps Delores for calling her mother a ??? whore??? and the Delores stabs her.

Maya runs away from Big Bailey??™s house and goes to live with a group of homeless teenagers for a month. Once Maya is feeling strong and confident, she moves back to San Francisco. Life is San Francisco is hard, and it seems like people everywhere are trying to stop Maya from reaching her goals.

Maya overcomes these issues and becomes the first black streetcar conductor at age 15. When Maya is 16 years old, she becomes pregnant, and hides it from her mom and step dad. Maya works very hard to get her life on the right track after having the baby, and 8 months later she graduates from https://assignbuster.com/i-know-why-the-caged-bird-sings-3/ high school. Maya finally steps out in to the world as a young, confident woman and a loving new mother. I think Maya Angelou held herself in the most admirable way any lady could ever dream of, and I think we should all look up to her.

She was strong, loyal, and always true to herself. For example, Maya showed her strength when she defied the racist hiring policies in San Francisco. Maya was loyal, because she helped her family at the store everyday instead of going out and playing. Last, Maya was true to herself, while living in San Francisco. All in all, Maya Angelou is a very admirable person.