

## CONTENTS

List of Illustrations and Song Lyrics	xv
Acknowledgments	xvii
Introduction	xix
A Note on the Text	xli
Chronology	xlili

### **ESSAYS**

<i>Alain Locke</i>	
The New Negro	3
<i>A. Philip Randolph and Chandler Owen</i>	
The New Negro—What Is He?	7
<i>William Stanley Braithwaite</i>	
The Negro in American Literature	10
<i>Ruth Whitehead Whaley</i>	
Closed Doors: A Study in Segregation	17
<i>James Weldon Johnson</i>	
Harlem: The Culture Capital	21
<i>Brenda Ray Moryck</i>	
A Point of View: An <i>Opportunity</i> Dinner Reaction	28
<i>George S. Schuyler</i>	
The Negro-Art Hokum	36

<i>Langston Hughes</i>	
The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain	40
<i>Amy Jacques Garvey</i>	
On Langston Hughes: I Am a Negro—and Beautiful	45
<i>W.E.B. Du Bois</i>	
Criteria of Negro Art	47
<i>Richard Wright</i>	
Blueprint for Negro Writing	52
<i>Zora Neale Hurston</i>	
Characteristics of Negro Expression	61
<i>Jessie Redmon Fauset</i>	
Impressions of the Second Pan-African Congress	75
<i>Marcus Garvey</i>	
Africa for the Africans	83
The Future as I See It	86
<i>W. A. Domingo</i>	
Gift of the Black Tropics	90
<i>Rudolph Fisher</i>	
The Caucasian Storms Harlem	96
<i>Elise Johnson McDougald</i>	
The Task of Negro Womanhood	103
<i>Marita O. Bonner</i>	
On Being Young—a Woman—and Colored	109
<i>Alice Dunbar-Nelson</i>	
Woman's Most Serious Problem	113
<i>Marion Vera Cuthbert</i>	
Problems Facing Negro Young Women	116
<i>Alain Locke</i>	
The Legacy of the Ancestral Arts	121
<i>Joel A. Rogers</i>	
Jazz at Home	127
<i>Gwendolyn B. Bennett</i>	
The American Negro Paints	134

**CREATIVE WRITING**

<i>James Weldon Johnson</i> (1871–1938)		<b>139</b>
POEMS	The Creation	140
	Mother Night	142
	The White Witch	142
	My City	144
<i>Alice Dunbar-Nelson</i> (1875–1935)		<b>145</b>
POEMS	Violets	147
	<i>You! Inez!</i>	147
	I Sit and Sew	148
	The Proletariat Speaks	148
STORY	His Great Career	150
<i>Georgia Douglas Johnson</i> (1877–1966)		<b>152</b>
POEMS	The Heart of a Woman	153
	Motherhood	154
	The Octoroon	154
	Escape	155
	The Black Runner	156
	Wishes	156
	I Want to Die While You Love Me	158
STORY	Tramp Love	159
PLAY	<i>Plumes: A Folk Tragedy</i>	163
<i>Angelina Weld Grimké</i> (1880–1958)		<b>170</b>
POEMS	El Beso	171
	The Black Finger	172
	The Want of You	172
	Dusk	172
	A Mona Lisa	173
	Tenebris	174
STORY	Goldie	174
PLAY	<i>Rachel</i>	189
<i>Anne Spencer</i> (1882–1975)		<b>227</b>
POEMS	White Things	228
	Lady, Lady	229
	Letter to My Sister	229
	Grapes: Still-Life	230
	Black Man o' Mine	231

<i>Jessie Redmon Fauset</i> (1882–1961)		<b>232</b>
POEMS	Oriflamme	234
	Here's April!	234
	Words! Words!	235
	Touché	235
	La Vie C'Est la Vie	236
STORY	Mary Elizabeth	237
 <i>Effie Lee Newsome (a.k.a. Mary Effie Lee)</i> (1885–1979)		 <b>243</b>
POEMS	The Bronze Legacy (To a Brown Boy)	243
	Exodus	244
	The Bird in the Cage	244
	The Quilt	245
 <i>John F. Matheus</i> (1887–1983)		 <b>246</b>
POEMS	Requiem	247
	In Haiti Is Riot of Color—	247
STORY	Fog	248
PLAY	'Cruiter	257
 <i>Fenton Johnson</i> (1888–1958)		 <b>268</b>
POEMS	The Banjo Player	268
	The Scarlet Woman	270
	Tired	270
 <i>Claude McKay</i> (1889–1948)		 <b>271</b>
POEMS	The Harlem Dancer	272
	If We Must Die	273
	Africa	273
	America	275
	Baptism	275
	Harlem Shadows	276
	To O.E.A.	276
	Like a Strong Tree	277
	The Tropics in New York	277
STORY	Mattie and Her Sweetman	278
 <i>Willis Richardson</i> (1889–1977)		 <b>286</b>
PLAYS	<i>The Chip Woman's Fortune</i>	287
	<i>The Flight of the Natives</i>	303

<i>Anita Scott Coleman</i> (1890–1960)		<b>314</b>
POEMS	Wash Day	314
	Definition	314
	Black Baby	316
	Black Faces	316
	Negro Laughter	317
STORY	Two Old Women A-Shopping Go!	
	A Story of Man, Marriage and Poverty	317
 <i>Zora Neale Hurston</i> (1891–1960)		 <b>322</b>
POEM	Passion	324
STORIES	Spunk	325
	Sweat	329
PLAY	<i>Color Struck</i>	338
 <i>Nella Larsen</i> (1891–1964)		 <b>352</b>
STORY	Sanctuary	353
 <i>Eulalie Spence</i> (1894–1981)		 <b>358</b>
PLAY	<i>Undertow</i>	360
 <i>Jean Toomer</i> (1894–1967)		 <b>371</b>
POEMS	Song of the Son	372
	Georgia Dusk	373
	Portrait in Georgia	374
STORY	Blood-Burning Moon	375
 <i>Joseph Seamon Cotter, Jr.</i> (1895–1919)		 <b>381</b>
POEMS	And What Shall You Say?	381
	Is It Because I Am Black?	382
	Sonnet to Negro Soldiers	382
	Rain Music	383
PLAY	<i>On the Fields of France</i>	384
 <i>Rudolph Fisher</i> (1897–1934)		 <b>386</b>
STORIES	The City of Refuge	388
	Miss Cynthia	400
 <i>Eric Walrond</i> (1898–1966)		 <b>410</b>
STORY	The Voodoo's Revenge	411

<i>May Miller</i> (1899-1995)			<b>419</b>
PLAY	<i>Riding the Goat</i>	421	
<i>Marita O. Bonner</i> (1899-1971)			<b>434</b>
STORY	One Boy's Story	434	
PLAY	<i>The Pot Maker</i>	444	
<i>Sterling A. Brown</i> (1901-1989)			<b>450</b>
POEMS	Ma Rainey	451	
	Sam Smiley	453	
	Southern Road	454	
	Strong Men	456	
<i>Langston Hughes</i> (1902-1967)			<b>458</b>
POEMS	The Negro Speaks of Rivers	460	
	Danse Africaine	460	
	Jazzonia	461	
	Song to a Negro Wash-Woman	461	
	Dream Variation	462	
	Desire	463	
	Poem [2]	463	
	The Weary Blues	464	
	To Midnight Nan at Leroy's	465	
	Lullaby	466	
	Listen Here Blues	466	
	Bound No'th Blues	468	
	Song for a Dark Girl	469	
STORY	The Blues I'm Playing	469	
PLAY	<i>Mulatto: A Tragedy of the Deep South</i>	476	
<i>Gwendolyn B. Bennett</i> (1902-1981)			<b>506</b>
POEMS	Heritage	508	
	To a Dark Girl	508	
	Hatred	509	
	Advice	509	
	Fantasy	510	
STORIES	Wedding Day	511	
	Tokens	516	
<i>Wallace Thurman</i> (1902-1934)			<b>520</b>
POEMS	The Last Citadel	521	
	God's Edict	521	

STORIES	Cordelia the Crude	523	
	Emma Lou	526	
<i>Arna Bontemps (1902–1973)</i>			<b>538</b>
POEMS	Golgotha Is a Mountain	539	
	Length of Moon	541	
	Nocturne at Bethesda	541	
	A Black Man Talks of Reaping	544	
	God Give to Men	544	
	The Return	545	
STORY	A Summer Tragedy	546	
<i>Countee Cullen (1903–1946)</i>			<b>554</b>
POEMS	Heritage	555	
	Sacramento	558	
	Tableau	558	
	Yet Do I Marvel	559	
	From the Dark Tower	559	
	Colored Blues Singer	561	
	To Certain Critics	562	
	Little Sonnet to Little Friends	562	
<i>Gladys May Casely Hayford (a k a Aquah Lualah) (1904–1950)</i>			<b>563</b>
POEMS	Rainy Season Love Song	564	
	The Serving Girl	564	
	Lullaby	565	
	The Palm Wine Seller	565	
<i>(William) Waring Cuney (1906–1976)</i>			<b>567</b>
POEMS	No Images	568	
	Dust	568	
	The Radical	569	
<i>Richard Bruce Nugent (a k a Richard Bruce) (1906–1987)</i>			<b>570</b>
POEM	Shadow	571	
STORIES	Sahdji	573	
	Smoke, Lilies, and Jade!	574	
PLAY	<i>Sahdji, an African Ballet</i>	583	
<i>Dorothy West (1907–1998)</i>			<b>590</b>
STORIES	The Typewriter	591	
	The Black Dress	597	

<i>Helene Johnson</i> (1907–1995)		<b>599</b>
POEMS	My Race	601
	Magalu	601
	The Road	602
	Mother	602
	Bottled	602
	Poem	604
	Sonnet to a Negro in Harlem	605
 <i>Mae V. Cowdery</i> (1909–1953)		 <b>606</b>
POEMS	Dusk	607
	Heritage	608
	Insatiate	608
	Poem . . . for a Lover	609
 Bibliography		 611
Credits		615
Index of Writers and Artists		617