

APPENDICES

Synopsis of Richard Wright's The Outsider

Cross Damon is a man who hungers for peace but who brings terror and destruction wherever he goes. During his life, Damon has many social conflicts. His bad experiences with his past life make him go as far as he can from his own town and often changes his name. Unexpectedly, Damon meets his work partner from Postal Union, Joe Thomas. Damon is afraid of Joe's telling everyone about his existence, so he kills him. As the result of his action, Damon's feeling of humanity begins to fade; he feels innocent to kill anyone. Besides, he cannot live in that town any more for anytime the police can investigate about Joe's death. After that, Damon goes to another town with his new identity.

In this new town, Damon meets Gil Blount, Eva Blount and Jack Hilton. They are Communist Party members. Gil asks Damon to stay and live in his apartment since Damon does not have a permanent place to live. In Gil's place, Damon feels pressed by Gil; furthermore, as a communist, Damon indirectly becomes his slave. Later, Damon falls in love with Gil's wife and feels Gil's existence is threatening him. When Gil has a fight with the landlord, Damon kills him secretly. Damon's action becomes a problem for him when Hilton knows about the murderer and can tell the police anytime.

The Communist Party begins to become curious about Damon and sends some men to investigate the murder. Unfortunately, Hilton knows about the murderer.

Damon is afraid of Hilton's telling the truth; therefore, he also kills him secretly. His action toward Hilton makes The Communist Party feel more curious about Damon since this murder are committed chronologically after Damon stays near them. They feel Damon's existence is threatening them; however, they do not have any evidence about the murders. When Damon has a walk, somebody shoots him from the back. Damon believes it is The Party's action. They do this because they cannot understand his manner. Damon dies in the hospital.

Biography of the Author

Richard Wright was born on 4 September 1908, on Rucker's Plantation, Mississippi. He was the son of Nathaniel Wright, and Ella Wilson. Wright was graduating at the Smith Robertson Junior High School in Jackson in June 1925. After leaving school, Wright went to Lanier High School but dropped out after a few weeks and then he works.

Wright's first work was, The Voodoo of Hell's Half-Acre (1924), then in 1938 he wrote Uncle Tom's Children. Wright published Native Son in 1940; in 1944, Wright wrote an essay, I Tried to Be a Communist, which was reprinted in The God That Failed (1949). In 1941, Wright wrote Twelve Million Black Voices: A Folk History of the Negro in the United States. In 1945, Black Boy came out and became a bestseller. Later, American Hunger was published in 1977. In 1953, The Outsider was published. Wright released Savage Holiday and Black Power In 1954. In 1956, The Color Curtain and Pagan Spain were published. Later, in 1957, he published White Man, and Listen!. The last work Wright submitted for publication during his lifetime

was The Long Dream in 1958. In 1959, Wright collaborated with Louis Sapin and published Daddy Goodness.

Uncle Tom's Children (1938) won the first prize for the *Story* magazine contest open to Federal Writer's Project authors for best book-length manuscript. Native Son made Wright the most respected and wealthiest black writer in America; he was awarded the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's prestigious Spingarn Medal in 1941. Later, Native Son continues to be regarded as Wright's greatest novel and most influential book. Since then, he has been called the father of black American literature.

Wright suffered from amoebic dysentery acquired during his last year of 1960 and died suddenly of an apparent heart attack at the Clinique Eugène Gibez in Paris.