

APPENDICES

SYNOPSIS OF E. LYNN HARRIS' INVISIBLE LIFE

The story is about an African-American who struggles for his sexual identity and finds his self-discovery. His name is Raymond Tyler. He comes from an educated family. His life goes normally, until one day he meets Kelvin who changes his life completely. Kelvin is an attracting man and makes Raymond falls in love with him although he has a girlfriend, Sela. His relation with Kelvin develops into a very serious problem. Kelvin makes Raymond realize that he likes men when he enjoys sleeping with Kelvin.

Raymond becomes confused whether he has to choose Sela or Kelvin because both of them are very important in Raymond's life and this problem puts him in a great dilemma. He cannot make a decision; as a result, he decides to move to New York. He studies about law there and then works in a top firm as a lawyer. He has a best friend, Kyle, who is also a gay. In New York, Raymond feels comfortable because he can have a relationship with a gay, go to gay's bar and talk liberally about his homosexuality.

One day he meets Kelvin, after few years, he has never met him. He remembers about their relation in the past, but at present Kelvin has a fiancé, Candance and they will

get married soon. At first, he feels jealous towards Kelvin but he eventually decides to leave Kelvin.

After forgetting Kelvin, Raymond cannot avoid his feeling to love another man. He has a boyfriend, Quinn who has a wife and two children. Their relationship goes smoothly until she meets Nicole who is Candance's best friend and falls in love with her. This problem makes Raymond confused because he loves Nicole and Quinn. This situation puts him in dilemma whether to choose Quinn or Nicole. Finally, he chooses Nicole and decides to break up with Quinn.

One day he gets news from Nicole that Candance is infected AIDS from Kelvin. It makes Nicole ask Raymond about Kelvin whether he uses drugs or is homosexual. This question makes Raymond tell the truth about himself to Nicole that Kelvin and him are bisexual. In addition, Nicole becomes angry and gets disappointed with him. Nicole decides to leave him and this decision makes Raymond becomes desperate and broken-hearted. He separates himself from the crowd, in the same time; his father comes to see him. Being in the bad condition, he tells all his problems to his father. At first, his father is shocked and sad. However, his father can accept and understand him.

After Candance's death, Raymond decides to change his life and goes back to Birmingham to consult his problem with a therapist. A few years later, on Raymond's birthday, he gets a call from Nicole. it is a good sign that she has forgiven Raymond's fault and she is willing to start a new relationship with him.

BIOGRAPHY OF E. LYNN HARRIS

E. Lynn Harris was born on June 20, 1955 in Flint, Michigan. He graduated from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Before he became an author, Harris has been working and sold computer for thirteen years in Dallas, Washington D.C, and Atlanta. Finally, he quite and tried to write his first novel Invisible Life, which is published by himself in 1991. Moreover, he sold his first novel in black-owned bookstores, beauty salon and book clubs. However, in 1994, Invisible Life publishes by Anchor Book, and it became his career as an author is officially launched.

After he wrote Invisible Life, he wrote Just As I Am in 1994 and Abide With Me in 1999 and those three novels became his trilogy novel which are about bisexuality. And he wrote another book such as And This Too Shall Pass (1996), If This World Were Mine (1997) and Abide with Me (1999). Those books became his best sellers novel and makes him to be a famous writer. Three of his novels had been optioned for film, such us: Invisible Life, Just As I am and Not a Day Goes By by actress Pam Grier for her production company. In 2002, he wrote short fiction Gumbo: a Celebration of African American Writer and in July 2002, he writes A Love of My Own was a national bestseller.

Harris has won some awards, in 1996, from his one trilogy novel, Just As I am. He also was awarded Blackboard's novel and in 1997 his book If This World Were Mine was nominated for NAACP Image Award and won the James Baldwin Award for literary Excellence. And Any Way the Wind Blows makes Harris gets his second Blackboard novel of the year. And A Love of My Own is recently named Blackboard Novel of the

year, and this makes Harris the first author who received the prize a record three times from Blackboard.