## **APPENDICES**

## Synopsis of Sula

The story is about friendship between two women, Sula and Nel. They come from different family backgrounds. Sula comes from a controversial family. For example, her grand mother, Eva, has cut off her leg in order to claim insurance money so she could feed her children. Eva also kills her son because of his addiction to drugs. Hannah, Sula's mother is known in the Bottom for her affairs with married men. Both of them are seen by the town as eccentric and loose. Sula has a best friend named Nel. They have been together since they were children. Nel grows up in a strict family. Their friendship grows stronger although they come from different family backgrounds.

Nel is calmer than Sula, who is full of emotion. They complement each other. After high school, Nel chooses to marry and settles into the conventional role of wife and mother. On the other hand, Sula follows a wildly divergent path and lives a life of fierce independence. Sula leaves The Bottom and goes to college in the United State.

After her absence of ten years, Sula returns to the Bottom looking like a movie star. The people in the town stare at Sula in amazement. It happens that Sula comes back on the same day when plague of two Robin arrives. Therefore,

people of the town regard Sula as a symbol of evil. Soon after she arrives home, her grandmother, Eva asks her to get married and have children. Nevertheless, Sula rejects Eva's advice as she wants to be independent. Later on Sula puts Eva in a nursing home.

One day, Nel discovers Sula and her husband have a love affair, then she realizes that her marriage is ruined; besides, Sula has broken up their friendship. Nel suffers deeply, emotionally traumatic over the loss of both her husband and her best friend. Later, Sula is seriously ill and Nel comes to see her. Before Sula's death they have a conversation. Nel blames Sula for taking Jude away from her and says how she disagrees with Sula's concept of independence. Nevertheless, Sula says that she is proud of what she has done in her life. In fact, she never regrets her past deeds.

## **Biography of Toni Morrison**

Toni Morrison was born Chloe Anthony Wofford on February 18, 1931, in Lorain, Ohio. She was the second of four children of Ramah and George Wofford. Chloe Wofford then attended the prestigious Howard University in Washington, D.C., where she majored in English with a minor in classics. Since many people could not pronounce her first name correctly, she changed it to Toni, a shortened version of her middle name.

Toni Wofford graduated from Howard University in 1953 with a B.A. in English. She then attended Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, and received a Master's degree in 1957. She returned to Howard University as a member of faculty and there she met Harold Morrison, a Jamaican architect she married in 1958.

As a writer, Toni has also worked as an editor for Random House. She is also a critic public lecturer, specializing in African–American Literature. In 1970, she published her first book The Bluest Eye, a novel of initiation concerning a victimized adolescent black girl who is obsessed by white standards of beauty and longs to have blue eyes. Her second book, Sula was released in 1973, and this book was nominated for the Prestigious National Book Award. From 1976-1977, she was a visiting lecturer at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. She was also writing her third novel. This time she focused on strong black male characters. Her insight into male world came from watching her sons. Morrison' third novel Song of Solomon (1977) is told by a male narrator in search of his

identity. It won the National Book Critic's Circle Award and the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Award. In 1981 she published her fourth novel, <u>Tar Baby</u>. Morrison's next novel <u>Beloved</u> was published in 1987 and was a bestseller. In 1988 it won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction.