

APPENDICES

Synopsis of *Plum Bun: A Novel Without A Moral*

Plum Bun: A Novel Without A Moral is a story of a woman named Angela Murray, who lives in Philadelphia with her family. She is a mulatto and she has one sister named Virginia Murray. Angela is light-skinned just like her mother while Virginia has dark skin just like her father. Because of her light skin many people think that Angela is white. Angela does not feel comfortable being black because of her bad experience as a young schoolgirl when her bestfriend named Mary Hastings abandons her and her instructor rejects her after finding out that Angela is coloured. Later on, she decides to leave Philadelphia and her own sister to move to New York to begin a new life by doing the act of passing.

In New York, Angela is accepted as white but Angela feels lonely because she realizes that nobody is close enough to her when Roger, the white man she is dating, leaves her. Later on Angela tries to get back to her friend who loves her, Anthony. This time, Angela knows the truth from Anthony that he is actually a mulatto. She finally reveals the truth about her background to him and later on both of them decide to be together. At last, Angela can declare her background publicly in order to help her friend, Rachel Powell and also save their pride as black descendants. Angela realizes that the act of passing is wrong and she finally accepts and respects her black self.

Biography of Jessie Redmon Fauset

Jessie Redmon Fauset was born in Camden County, New Jersey, on 27 April 1882. She was the youngest of the seven children of Redmon Fauset, an African Methodist Episcopal Minister and Annie Seamon Fauset. She attended Philadelphia High School for Girls and became the first African-American to graduate. She applied to Bryn Mawr College but denied because of her race. The college helped her by finding a scholarship for another university so she continued her education at Cornell University. In 1919 Fauset left teaching and became a literary editor of *Crisis* with W.E.B Du Bois until 1926. Fauset wrote many articles, stories, and poems and also promoted the works of writers such as Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen, Claude McKay and Jean Toomer. Fauset helped to discover, promote and give a chance to African-American writers to create “black voice” in American literature.

All Fauset’s novel featured African-American middle class who are forced to deal with self-hate as well as racial prejudice. Fauset wrote four novels : *There Is Confusion* (1924), *Plum Bun* (1929), *The Chinaberry Tree* (1931), and *Comedy: American Style* (1933). In 1929 Fauset married an insurance broker and World War I veteran, Herbert Harris. Jessie Redmon Fauset died of a heart disease on 30 April 1961. Jessie Redmon Fauset was called by Langston Hughes a “mid-wife” of African-American literature.

Source : Dickinson, Lewis