Countee Cullen

Selected Resources

Countee Cullen (1903-1946), respected for the intelligence and eloquence of his dark, brooding poetry, is generally considered one of the finest poets to arise out of the Harlem Renaissance. Cullen published his first collection of poems, *Color*, in 1925, shortly before graduating from New York University. Cullen protested against the label “Negro poet,” yet his best poetry invariably shows the influence of his racial consciousness. Cullen, who taught in New York City’s public schools until his death, published several other volumes of poetry, including *Cooper Sun*, *The Ballad of a Brown Girl*, and *The Black Christ*.

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SELECTED RESOURCES

Countee Cullen

BOOKS

SHADE: PS3505.U287 A6 1991

This is a prodigious volume of work by one of the most important black writers of the 1920s and '30s, a period of intense creative activity in Afro-American literature.

SHADE: PS3505.U287 Z88 1984

The author discusses the discrepancies between the personal image of the man – Cullen, and the far more ponderous, traditional sometimes outraged poet.

SHADE: PS3505.U287Z83 1971

A long essay on "The Man and His Poetry" plus extensive bibliography of Cullen's major writings, writings about Cullen, including newspaper references, and poetry anthologies in which Cullen's work appeared.

SHADE: PS3505.U287Z6 1966

A biography and appraisal of Cullen's life and work.

SHADE: PS3505.U287A6 1947

Cullen's best work was his poetry; he apparently knew this when he compiled his anthology, with this self-explanatory title.

SHADE: PS3505.U287M8 1942

An autobiography about his cat. Now in its ninth life, a cat reminisces about adventures in the previous eight. (A child’s’ book).

SHADE: PS 3505.U287M4 1935

Cullen’s last book of verse.