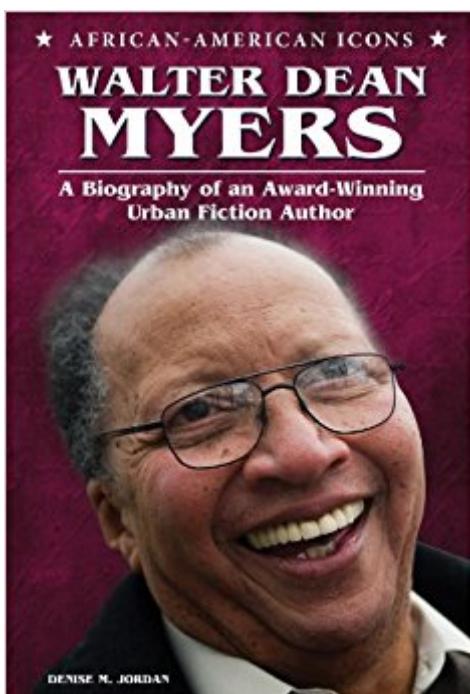


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Walter Dean Myers: A Biography Of An Award-Winning Urban Fiction Author (African-American Icons)



Synopsis

Walter Dean Myers tells it like it is in his award-winning novels about urban teenagers with real problems. With humor and a keen ear for dialogue, Myers creates characters that speak directly to today's teens. As a young reader, Myers could not find books about African-American boys like himself. Drawing upon his own struggles and experiences, he has filled that literary gap with fascinating novels filled with realistic stories that appeal to readers of all backgrounds and cultures.

Book Information

Series: African-American Icons

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Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up-Presented in an easy-to-read format, these books will appeal to reluctant readers or teens who are just trying to fulfill an assignment. The well-known literary figures have interesting life stories. For example, Morrison tells about the trials and triumphs that affected the woman's daily life and ultimately her decision to write. Likewise, Myers had a nontraditional upbringing that has greatly influenced his work. He has fought against criticism and even censorship of several of his books.

Staying true to himself has earned him several awards and recognition in the literary world. Angelou has many accomplishments, from working with Martin Luther King, Jr., in his fight for civil rights to composing and reading a poem for President Clinton's inauguration. These individuals have in common their struggle for a better life; whether they came from humble beginnings or not, they triumphed through hard times and have influenced many people around them. Unfortunately, the lack of photographs or any illustrative material to break up the texts is a real drawback. Also, while the publisher touts these as new titles, Jordan's and Kramer's books were originally published in the 1990s and while a few updates have been made, the presentations seem a bit dated.-Carol

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