

BOOK CLUB in a bag

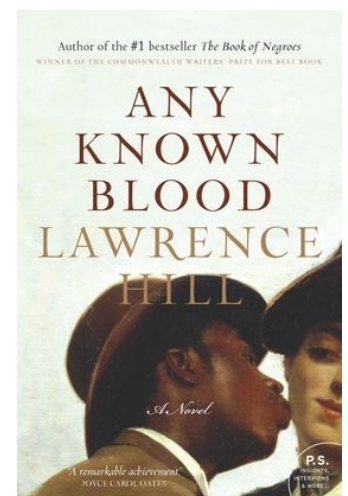


Any Known Blood

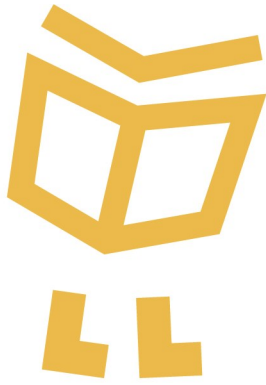
Lawrence Hill

Discussion Questions

1. In *Any Known Blood*, Langston Cane attempts to find himself through unearthing and giving voice to those who came before him. How does Langston's quest to uncover his family's past influence his identity and sense of self?
2. This novel tells a story about five generations of the Cane Family and their movement across the US-Canadian border. How does this migration impact the characters and their family?
3. Writing a novel that pertains to themes of race and slavery is a thoughtful and attentive endeavor. Lawrence Hill has worked to avoid filling this novel with stereotypes, caricatures, and martyrs. In your opinion, what elements of Hill's writing contributed to the creation of a well-rounded and inclusive narrative?
4. This novel explores family legacy and genealogy. In an interview with the University of New Brunswick, Lawrence Hill said that conversations with his family members has provided inspiration for many of his books. How has "family folklore" influenced your life and what stories would you like to pass on to the next generation?
5. In this novel, Aunt Mill is portrayed as a strong female character. What attributes do you think convey her strength to the reader?
6. What did you think about the relationship between Aunt Mill and Langston Cane?
7. Overall, which character(s) did you relate to, or empathize with, the most?
8. What do you think happens to the characters after the book's official ending?
9. How did this story impact you? Do you think you'll remember it in a few months or years?
10. Would you want to read another book by Lawrence Hill?



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About the Author

Lawrence Hill is an award-winning Canadian author whose body of work consists of both fiction and non-fiction literature. Hill explores themes of personal identity, race, immigration, slavery, belonging, familial history, cultural heritage, and more. Notably, Hill's 2007 novel *The Book of Negroes* was adapted into a TV mini-series produced in 2015.

Sources:

Project Bookmark Canada (2015). Bookmark #15 Oakville, Ontario: Any Known Blood by Lawrence Hill. Retrieved from <https://www.projectbookmarkcanada.ca/bookmarks-index/#15-any-known-blood>.

Sagawa, J. (2008). Projecting History Honestly: An Interview with Lawrence Hill. *Studies in Canadian Literature*, 33(1). Retrieved from <https://journals.lib.unb.ca/index.php/SCL/article/view/11222>.

Quill and Quire. Reviews: Any Known Blood by Lawrence Hill. Retrieved from <https://quillandquire.com/review/any-known-blood/>.

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