



Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel

By April Sinclair

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Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel By April Sinclair

I still thought breasts might be more trouble than they were worth. Growing up reminded me a little bit of Hide and Go Seek. When it was your time to grow up, Natrue said, "Here I come, ready or not." And Nature could always find you.

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Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel By April Sinclair Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #677667 in Books
- Published on: 2007-01-30
- Released on: 2007-01-30
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .60" h x 5.22" w x 8.04" l, .45 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 239 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Sinclair's much-touted story of a teenage girl confronting racial prejudice while growing up on Chicago's South Side during the late 1960s.

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From Kirkus Reviews

From newcomer Sinclair, the coming-of-age story of a black girl in 1960's Chicago. Jean ``Stevie" Stevenson is a child of the working poor. Her father is a hospital janitor, her mother is a bank teller, and Grandma owns a popular South Side chicken-stand. Sixth-grader Stevie, meanwhile, is tired of her mother's rules, her refusal to countenance ``black English," her attempts to make Stevie a dreaded ``L7" (square). Stevie's dream is to be popular and cool, and her wish is granted when ``all the way cool" Carla invites her to a party. Soon Stevie has had her first period, her first kiss (from sexy Yusef), and is learning that cool is not necessarily kind, for that dog Yusef has his classmates spy while the two show themselves to each other. All this is fresh and authentic. The trouble starts with Stevie's arrival at high school, which coincides with the ``black is beautiful" period (it's 1967). Here, the flow is disrupted by obvious setups intended to make points about race and sexual orientation. Stevie and Carla happen on their white art-teacher having a date with a black man--puppets miming the interracial experimentation of the period. At school, the sympathetic Nurse Horn puts Stevie in a quandary: Is it possible to be friends with a white woman, who may even be ``funny" (lesbian)? The question overshadows Stevie's almost consummated relationship with Sean, a straight-arrow senior, and although the good nurse answers it in best Ann Landers style (``because you have a schoolgirl crush on me doesn't make you a homosexual"), Stevie ends up dwarfed by her author's agenda. Sinclair's story works fine when she gives her characters room to breathe. A fair-to-middling debut. -- *Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Review

"A pleasure...heartwarming...memorable...told with earnestness and humor...a coming-of-age story with a twist." -- Anne Whitehouse, *Chicago Tribune*

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"April Sinclair is an extraordinary storyteller. I loved this book!" -- Dorothy Allison, *author of Bastard Out of Carolina*

"Bold...moving...witty...wonderful...Sinclair never fails to make you laugh and never sacrifices the narrative to make a point." -- Veronica Chambers, *Los Angeles Times*

"Earthy...adventurous...a funny, fresh novel about growing up African-American in 1960's Chicago...Sinclair writes like Terry McMillan's kid sister." -- Suzanne Ruta, *Entertainment Weekly*

"Extraordinary...feisty, funny and wise." -- Sara Nelson, *Glamour*

"Poignant...well-crafted...vivid and brilliant...told by a voice so rich in character, it stands out among the ruck of 'growing up' tales." -- Paschal Fowlkes, *San Francisco Review of Books*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mary Grubb:

The book Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel make you feel enjoy for your spare time. You may use to make your capable far more increase. Book can to get your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem with your subject. If you can make reading a book Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel for being your habit, you can get much more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You can know everything if you like wide open and read a e-book Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or some others. So , how do you think about this e-book?

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A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read the book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent all day long to reading a book. The book Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel it is rather good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book possesses high quality.

Mary Jacobs:

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Alice Weaver:

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