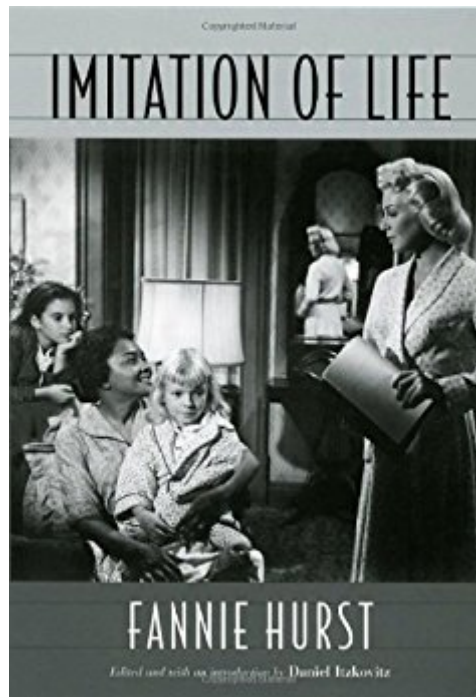


The book was found

Imitation Of Life



Synopsis

A bestseller in 1933, and subsequently adapted into two beloved and controversial films, *Imitation of Life* has played a vital role in ongoing conversations about race, femininity, and the American Dream. Bea Pullman, a white single mother, and her African American maid, Delilah Johnston, also a single mother, rear their daughters together and become business partners. Combining Bea's business savvy with Delilah's irresistible southern recipes, they build an Aunt Jemima-like waffle business and an international restaurant empire. Yet their public success brings them little happiness. Bea is torn between her responsibilities as a businesswoman and those of a mother; Delilah is devastated when her light-skinned daughter, Peola, moves away to pass as white. *Imitation of Life* struck a chord in the 1930s, and it continues to resonate powerfully today. The author of numerous bestselling novels, a masterful short story writer, and an outspoken social activist, Fannie Hurst was a major celebrity in the first half of the twentieth century. Daniel Itzkovitz's introduction situates *Imitation of Life* in its literary, biographical, and cultural contexts, addressing such topics as the debates over the novel and films, the role of Hurst's one-time secretary and great friend Zora Neale Hurston in the novel's development, and the response to the novel by Hurst's friend Langston Hughes, whose one-act satire, "Limitations of Life" (which reverses the races of Bea and Delilah), played to a raucous Harlem crowd in the late 1930s. This edition brings a classic of popular American literature back into print.

Book Information

File Size: 3321 KB

Print Length: 352 pages

Publisher: Duke University Press Books (November 16, 2004)

Publication Date: November 16, 2004

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B003DSG93S

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #377,900 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #309

inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Literary Fiction > African American #579
inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Theory #966 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction >
Women's Fiction > Friendship

Customer Reviews

This is an oldie but a goodie, and although it may seem somewhat anachronistic, in fact, almost embarrassingly and offensively so, it is well worth reading. A best selling novel when it was first released in 1933, the reader should keep in mind that much of what is in the book would today be perceived as racist. The book is reflective of a paternalistic view of African-Americans that was prevalent at the time in which this book was written. It is certainly a view that is jarring in these more enlightened times, as the books reflects the nature of the racism that was then inherent in our society. This is not a book that would be written today, as modern society, though still racist in many ways, would view it as being totally politically incorrect. That being said, the book focuses on two female characters, Bea Pullman, a white teenage widow living in Atlantic City, New Jersey with her elderly father and a baby daughter named Jessie, and Delilah Johnston, a young black widow with a light-skinned baby daughter named Peola. Both women are struggling to survive in pre-World War I society, where the lot of widows in a man's world could be a difficult one. When they join forces, an alliance born of necessity is forged. Delilah becomes Bea's housekeeper and caregiver, taking on the traditional woman's role, while Bea struggles to be the breadwinner in a world not yet hospitable to the idea of a business woman. When Delilah's culinary talents merge with Bea's innate business acumen, they are both on their way to fame and fortune. Before you know it, Bea is making a mint with Delilah's recipes, running a successful chain of B.

This is an oldie but a goodie, and although it may seem somewhat anachronistic, in fact, almost embarrassingly and offensively so, it is well worth reading. A best selling novel when it was first released in 1933, the reader should keep in mind that much of what is in the book would today be perceived as racist. The book is reflective of a paternalistic view of African-Americans that was prevalent at the time in which this book was written. It is certainly a view that is jarring in these more enlightened times, as the books reflects the nature of the racism that was then inherent in our society. This is not a book that would be written today, as modern society, though still racist in many ways, would view it as being totally politically incorrect. That being said, the book focuses on two female characters, Bea Pullman, a white teenage widow living in Atlantic City, New Jersey with her elderly father and a baby daughter named Jessie, and Delilah Johnston, a young black widow with a

light-skinned baby daughter named Peola. Both women are struggling to survive in pre-World War I society, where the lot of widows in a man's world could be a difficult one. When they join forces, an alliance born of necessity is forged. Delilah becomes Bea's housekeeper and caregiver, taking on the traditional woman's role, while Bea struggles to be the breadwinner in a world not yet hospitable to the idea of a business woman. When Delilah's culinary talents merge with Bea's innate business acumen, they are both on their way to fame and fortune. Before you know it, Bea is making a mint with Delilah's recipes, running a successful chain of B.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Imitation of Life: Douglas Sirk, Director (Rutgers Films in Print series) Imitation of Life Inventors & Impostors: A Sordid History of Innovation and Imitation The Imitation of Christ (Dover Thrift Editions) An Imitation of Murder (Sky High Pies Cozy Mysteries Book 9) Life Coaching: Life Coaching Blueprint: Save A Life One Person At A Time (BONUS 30MINUTE Life Coaching Session- How To Motivate, Inspire, Change Your Life) Life Coaching: Complete Blueprint to Becoming a Powerful Influential Life Coach (Life coaching, Life improvement, positive thinking, coaching, better leadership, goals, consulting) Evernote for your Life | A Practical Guide for the Use of Evernote in Your Everyday Life [2014 Edition]: A Practical Guide for the Use of Evernote in Your Everyday Life Change Your Habits Change Your Life: Break Your Bad Habits, Break Your Addictions And Live A Better Life (Change Your Life, Stop Smoking, Stop Drinking, Stop Gambling, Stop Overeating) The Autobiography of Emperor Haile Sellassie I: King of Kings of All Ethiopia and Lord of All Lords (My Life and Ethiopia's Progress) (My Life and ... (My Life and Ethiopia's Progress (Paperback)) Stoic Six Pack 5 - The Cynics: An Introduction to Cynic Philosophy, The Moral Sayings of Publius Syrus, Life of Antisthenes, The Symposium (Book IV), Life of Diogenes and Life of Crates (Illustrated) Summary - The Immortal Life Of Henrietta Lacks: Novel By Rebecca Skloot -- An Incredible Summary! (The Immortal Life Of Henrietta Lacks: An Incredible Summary --- Immortal Life) Take Back Your Life: 103 Highly-Effective Strategies to Snuff Out a Narcissist's Gaslighting and Enjoy the Happy Life You Really Deserve (Detoxifying Your Life) 30 Life Principles (Life Principles Study) Being Church, Doing Life: Creating Gospel Communities Where Life Happens Evernote In 90 Minutes Or Less: Declutter and organize your life by going completely paperless (Life Hacks Book 1) Programmierung Game of Life: Game of Life mit Delphi 5.0 (German Edition) Simple Life: Declutter Challenge - Cleaning & Organizing Your Life with Feng Shui (For Health, Happiness, Less Stuff, Cleaner Home, More Money) by New Free World Books The South Beach Diet Wake-Up Call: 7 Real-Life Strategies for Living Your Healthiest Life Ever The South Beach Wake-Up Call: 7 Real-Life Strategies for Living Your Healthiest Life Ever (The South Beach Diet)

