

Research Paper Example Outline

Central Idea/Question/Problem:

Countee Cullen did so much, gained incredible popularity, and had such a huge impact, but he died out of favor, working for minimum wage as a middle school French teacher. How could this happen?

Hook:

Countee Cullen stood at the front of the red brick Salem Methodist Episcopal Church Harlem. To his right stood his bride to be, Yolande DuBois, the beautiful and only child of W.E.B. DuBois, and her 17 bridesmaids, each an explosion of lace and shining jewels. Out front sat a Rolls Royce limousine ready to whisk them away to a honeymoon in Paris. And in the audience sat an entire textbook full of literary and artistic titans: Langston Hughes, Claude McKay, Duke Ellington, Aaron Douglass, and of course the bride's father, who had held the standard of African American literature for the last twenty years.

Little did Cullen know that all the hope and grandeur present on this summer evening in 1928 would be short lived, and that Cullen's marriage and popularity, both the envy of the African American world, would be in tatters by the end of the decade.

The Rising Action:

- Cullen's early life
- His Meteoric rise
- His struggles with how much to focus on race in his work and conflicts with Langston Hughes over this point.
- The hopes pinned on him by DuBois and the other African American leaders during the Harlem Renaissance (with the height being his wedding).

Climax:

The fall of his career, marriage, and star by 1930

Resolution:

The resurgence of his work and its lasting and important impact

Harlem Renaissance Research Paper Outline

Your Topic:

Your Central Idea/Question/Problem:

Your Hook Idea:

The Rising Action (The Key Topics in the Order that They Will Build;):

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

Climax (Where You Resolve/Discuss the Central Idea/Question/Problem):

Resolution (Where You “Tie Up Loose Ends” or Look to the Future):