



## Langston Hughes

Langston Hughes was a poet, novelist, and playwright whose long career inspired numerous other writers. Born on February 1, 1902, in Joplin, Missouri, he moved to Lincoln, Ohio, at age thirteen. He began writing poetry there and eventually became one of the most influential poets of the Harlem Renaissance, a movement of African American artists and writers during the 1920s.

Hughes wrote about African American life between the 1920s and 1960s. His experiences traveling the world influenced his poetry. His work had many different topics, from beautiful things, such as music and love, to ugly things, such as discrimination and racism. His style was compared to jazz and blues music, perhaps due to its repetition and rhythm, or perhaps because his poems are lyrical and emotional. Hughes was proud of his culture and heritage, despite facing strict racial segregation. His poetry showed readers the injustice of racism and imagined a world of equality. He died in 1967.