

INTRO TO AUTHOR

WALTER DEAN MYERS





BIRTH

❖ August 12, 1937

❖ Martinsburg, WV

❖ George & Mary

CHILDHOOD

- ❖ *Had 3 sisters & 2 brothers*
- ❖ *Biological mother passed away giving birth to his younger sister*
- ❖ *George married Florence, but eventually divorced*

CHILDHOOD

- ❖ Florence remarried Herbert Dean; they adopted Walter
- ❖ Lived in Harlem, NY
- ❖ Had a speech impediment

CHILDHOOD

- ❖ *Loving family; Had 2 step-sisters*
- ❖ *Florence was an alcoholic*
- ❖ *Centered around neighborhood and church--Neighborhood = protection; Church = guidance*

EDUCATION

- ❖ *Smart, but not considered a good student*
- ❖ *Loved reading & writing*
- ❖ *Reading & writing made him different from his peers*

EDUCATION

- ❖ Most of authors he read were British and white
- ❖ High school drop-out
- ❖ Joined the army @ 17 y/o