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ABSTRACT

This guide is intended to help library patrons of the Atkins Library (at the University of North Carolina Charlotte) find sources of criticism on African-American literature. The guide explains important reference sources in the reference collection of the library and how to find biographical and critical information in books and periodicals. The guide presents brief descriptions and the call numbers for 71 items in the collection. The guide is divided into the following sections: general references works, books, individual bibliographies, bibliographies on more than one author, short stories, poetry, drama, book reviews, children's literature, and periodical indexes. (RS)

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AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE: Finding Biographical and Critical Sources

ED 366 975



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AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE: FINDING BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL SOURCES

**Compiled by Judith Van Noate
Reference Librarian
Reference Unit, Atkins Library, UNC-Charlotte**

This guide is intended to help you find sources of criticism on African-American literature (long fiction, short fiction, poetry, drama). It explains important reference sources in the Atkins library reference collection and how to find biographical and critical information in books and periodicals.

It is arranged as follows:

1. GENERAL REFERENCE WORKS may be used for any author and all forms of literature).....1-5
 - a. Background information.....1-2
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REFERENCE BOOKS: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

If you are looking for information about an author and are not sure where to begin, or if you need some basic information about a type or genre of literature, the following are good sources.

- Ref Oxford Companion to American Literature
PS
21 Short "overview" type biographical sketches. A
H3 particularly useful feature of this book is the
1983 "Chronological Index," pp. 861-896, which "is a
 year-by-year outline in parallel sequence of
 ...social and literary history..."
- Ref Harlem Renaissance and Beyond: Literary
PS Biographies of 100 Black Women Writers
153 1900-1945
N5
R65 Biographical entries--some are several
1990 pages long--with lists of primary and
 secondary sources.
- Ref Living Black American Authors:
PS A Biographical Directory
153
N5 Brief biographies, title index and index
S5 to publishers. Published in 1973.
- Ref Black Plots & Black Characters: A Handbook
PS for Afro-American Literature
153
N5 Includes: Part 1, concise summaries of
S65 novels, plays, long poems; Part 2, bio-
 graphical sketches of authors with
 bibliographies of their works; Part 3, a
 general bibliography for Afro-American
 history and literature; Part 4, a
 chronological index. Author index to
 Part 1 on pp. 455-456. Published in 1979.
- Ref Selected Black American, African, and
PS Caribbean Authors: A Bio-bibliography
153
N5 Contains biographical information on 632
P3 literary and non-literary writers. Lists of
1985 works by authors are limited to published books.
 This recent (1985) work is well formatted,
 comprehensive and easy to use. Occupational and
 title indexes.

Ref Selected Black American Authors:
 PS An Illustrated Bio-Bibliography
 153
 N5 Includes writers from a variety of
 P3 disciplines -- historians, social scien-
 tists, theologians, as well as authors of
 fiction, poetry, etc. Covers colonial times
 to 1977. Biographical entries with lists
 of works and portraits.

REFERENCE BOOKS: BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL INFORMATION

Gale Literary Criticism Series

This group of reference works provides a comprehensive source for biographical and critical information on authors. Those that may be most useful for your research include:

Ref Black Literature Criticism (BLC)
 PS
 153 "Excerpts from Criticism of the Most Significant
 N5 Works of Black Authors over the Past 200 Years"
 B556 Similar in format to the other Gale Literary
 1992 Criticism Series described below--excerpts of
 3 vols. criticism. However, this set does contain
 some biographical material. There is some
 duplication of material from CLC, TLC, NCLC and
 some new material. The set is complete in three
 volumes.

Ref Contemporary Literary Criticism (CLC)
 PN
 771 CLC "presents significant passages from published
 C59 criticism of works by today's creative authors."
 Citations are given for each excerpt (you can then go
 to P.A.S.L. or ALADDIN to find the journal with the
 full text of the criticism). Entries are several
 pages long. Use the "Cumulative Index to Authors" at
 the end of the last volume in the series for the
 fullest coverage of an author.

Ref Dictionary of Literary Biography (DLB)
PN
451 Biographical--a good overview of an author's life
D52 and work. Articles are fairly long. Selected
1978 volumes of the Dictionary of Literary Biography
 deal with authors of specific literary movements
 and genres. Use the index in the back of the
 latest volume or the "Index to Authors" in the last
 volume of CLC. Several volumes are devoted to
 Afro-American authors.

Ref Dictionary of Literary Biography
PS Documentary Series (DLB-DS)
129
D48 "Depicting the Lives and Work of Authors--
1982 Including Photographs, Manuscript Facsimiles,
 Letters, Notebooks, Interviews, and Contemporary
 Assessments"--from frontispiece. Each volume is
 devoted to only a few major authors. Many
 illustrations.

Ref Dictionary of Literary Biography--Yearbook (DLB-Y)
PS
221 Summarizes "current literary activity." Gives an
D5 update of the author's work, discusses new books
 and other writings and includes a bibliography
 (with full citations) of the author's publications,
 interviews, etc. for the period encompassed by the
 yearbook.

Ref Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism (NCLC)
PN
761 "Excerpts from Criticism of the Works of
N5 Novelists, Poets, Playwrights, Short Story
 Writers, Who Died between 1800 and 1900, from the
 First Published Critical Appraisals to Current
 Evaluations."

 Covers a variety of genres and nationalities. An
 entry on an author consists of the following: author
 heading, biographical and critical introduction,
 principal works, excerpts of criticism (with
 citations) and additional bibliography. Entries
 are extensive.

Ref Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism (TCLC)
PN
771 TCLC is arranged like CLC but covers authors who
T83 died between 1900-1960, while the latter covers
 authors who are, for the most part, still living.
 Excerpts of criticism with full citations. Entries
 are long. In the case of multiple inclusions of an
 author, criticism is taken from different sources.

ADDITIONAL BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL SOURCES

- Ref African American Writers
PS
153 "an introduction to the work of African American
N5 writers who have made a significant contribution
A344 to African American and United States letters,
1991 culture, and history..."
- Articles include brief biographies, "a survey of the subject's principal writings and an assessment of the work as a whole." Also included are selected bibliographies of the subject's writings in chronological order, and lists of references for further research.
- Ref American Women Writers: A Critical Reference Guide
PS From Colonial Times to the Present
147
A4 "[C]overs contributions to American writing by women from colonial times to the present." Entries are critical and biographical with bibliographies of the author's works. References are given for further study. Length of articles vary according to the author's significance. Four volumes, published in 1979. Use for major Afro-American women authors.
- Ref American Writers
PS
129 Long, in-depth articles containing biographical
A552 and critical information. Each article contains a bibliography of sources of criticism. A very useful source, but only for major (well known) authors. Four volumes plus several supplements (PS129 A552).
- Ref Black American Writers Past and Present:
Z A Biographical and Bibliographical Dictionary
1229
N39 A source for biographical information, a listing
R87 of all the books published by a given author,
2 vols. partial information about the works published in anthologies and periodicals.
- Ref Southern Black Creative Writers
Z 1829-1953: Bibliographies
1229
N39 Includes biographical material, works, references.
F67 For in-depth research. Many of the authors
1988 included are not well known.

Ref Magill: Critical Survey of Long Fiction
 PR
 821 This is a multivolume set. It consists of long
 C7 biographical and analytical entries with
 1983 background information on the works and their
 sources. Use for well known, major Afro-American
 authors.

BOOKS: BOOKS ON INDIVIDUAL AUTHORS

Although proper names for people and places, etc. are not included in Library of Congress Subject Headings, they can be used as subjects in ALADDIN or the card catalog. Therefore, to find biographies, books of criticism or bibliographies concerning the works of a specific author, simply type s/ (for a subject search of that author), and then enter the author's last name, first initial. At this point, scan the list of entries until you find the appropriate subheading (for example --bibliography, --criticism and interpretation, --biography)

Example:

```
s/hurston zora
J. Murrey Atkins Library...VTLS/ALADDIN.....SUBJECTS
YOU SEARCHED: s/hurston zora
```

- 1> 4 Hurston, Zora Neale.
2. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale - Bibliography.
3. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale - Biography -- Juvenile literature.
4. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale - Criticism and interpretation.
5. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale, in fiction, drama, poetry, etc.
6. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale. Jonah's gourd vine.
7. 1 Hurston, Zora Neale - Juvenile literature.

INDIVIDUAL BIBLIOGRAPHIES

If you are doing in depth research on an author, the best place to begin your search is with a bibliography devoted to the work of that author. Bibliographies will frequently be divided up by the titles of poems, stories etc. and will direct you to criticism on a particular work. Disadvantages are that bibliographies may not be up to date; you will need to use additional sources if you need recent or current criticism. Also, they are not available on every author.

Use ALADDIN to find bibliographies concerning the works of a specific author. Type s/ (for a subject search for books about an author), and then enter the author's last name and first initial. Example: s/baldwin,j

At this point, scan the list of the author's name and birth (and death) dates for the subheading --bibliography.

If you need additional help with locating books, please ask a librarian at the 1st floor reference desk.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON MORE THAN ONE AUTHOR

(NOTE: Some of these sources will be more useful than others. Some of the resources they give will require the use of Inter-Library Loan. Also, some of these bibliographies are fairly old, you will need to use periodical indexes and other reference sources for more recent information.)

- Ref Afro-American Fiction, 1853-1976:
Z A Guide to Information Sources
1229
N39 Index to novels, short story collections,
M37 criticism (Chapter 3, "Major Authors --
 Secondary Sources"), and bibliographies.
 Author, title, and subject indexes.
- Ref Afro-American Literature and Culture
Z Since World War II: A Guide to Information
1229 Sources
N39
P4 A guide to writings and literature on a
 wide variety of topics. Part 1 is
 arranged by individual author. Part 2
 is an index to author, title, and
 subject. Annotated.
- Ref The Afro-American Novel 1965-1975:
Z A Descriptive Bibliography of Primary
1229 and Secondary Material
N39
H68 Divided into four categories: biography,
 novels by the authors, critical books
 and articles by and about the author, and
 reviews of the novel. Arranged by author.
 Annotated. Published in 1977.
- Ref A Bibliographical Guide to African-American
Z Women Writers
1229
N39 Arranged alphabetically by author with primary
J67 sources listed first and then secondary sources.
1993 In addition to books, this volume also lists
 stories, poems, etc. published in magazines,
 journals and anthologies. The time period covered
 is 1746-1991.

Ref Black American Fiction: A Bibliography
Z
1229 A list of black American authors, their
N39 fiction and criticism. Categories listed
F34 under authors include: novels, short
fiction, book reviews, biography and
criticism. Arranged alphabetically by
author.

Ref Black American Fiction Since 1952:
Z A Preliminary Checklist
1361
N39 A list of titles of fiction works by
D45 black authors. Deals with the years 1952-
1969. Some annotations.

Ref Black American Women in Literature:
Z A Bibliography, 1976 Through 1987
1229
N39 "The book includes [references to] the poetry,
G57 short fiction, novels, essays and plays by,
1989 and criticism of, approximately 300 women whose
work has been published in periodicals and
anthologies between 1976 and 1987..."

The book is arranged alphabetically by
author. References to primary sources are given
first, then works about the author or her writings.
Abbreviations are explained in the back of the book.

Ref Black American Women Novelists
Z An Annotated Bibliography
1229
N39 References to books, journal articles,
W47 reviews and articles in the mass media. The
1989 author has "attempted to include all black women
novelists recognized as major figures in any
published book in the field of Afro-American studies.

This is an important source for references to
biographical and critical information on Tony
Morrison, Zora Neale Hurston, Gwendolyn Brooks, Alice
Walker, and for sources of background information on
Afro-American fiction and Afro-American women.
Extensively annotated, indexed.

Ref Black Studies: A Bibliography
Z
1361 See pp. 86-92: "Biography, Memoirs, Auto-
N39 biography." Good source for anthologies of
I78 writings by black authors. Published in 1973.

- Tower
Z
1229
N39
C57
1985
- Black Writers in New England: A Bibliography
With Biographical Notes
- An index to the collection of Afro-American literature housed at the Mildred F Sawyer Library, Suffolk University, Boston, Massachusetts. Includes: biographical notes, books by the writer and books about the writer. The focus is on authors with New England connections. Note: kept in Tower.
- Tower
Z
1229
N39
B34
- Broadside Authors and Artists:
An Illustrated Biographical Directory
- Biographical information on authors originally published by Broadside Press (dedicated to the publication of poems and other writings by black writers). Includes author's addresses and lists of writings. Some references. Note: kept in tower.
- Ref
Z
1361
N39
W5
- A Century of Fiction by American Negroes --
1853-1952; A Descriptive Bibliography
- In alphabetical order by author. Useful introductory essay. Annotated. Published in 1955.
- Ref
Z
1361
N39
N67
- Checklist of Twentieth Century Black
American Creative Writing in the Libraries
of the University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill
- Bibliography of items available at UNC-CH. Arranged by author. Use for in-depth research. Published in 1972.
- Ref
Z
1229
N39
K34
- Index to Black American Literary Anthologies
- An aid to "locating Black American literature which has been published in collections." The emphasis is on adult literature -- autobiographies, dramas, essays, fiction, poetry. Author index, title index and a list of anthologies. Published in 1979.

Ref Index to Black American Writers in
Z Collective Biographies
1229
N39 References to biographical information on
C35 approximately 1,000 black American writers.
1983 See "Symbols and the Sources They Represent,"
(pp. 23-46) for full citations. Published in 1983.

Ref Magill's Bibliography of Literary Criticism
Z
6511 This is an excellent source for criticism, but will
M25 be useful mainly for major authors. Arranged by
author with titles of individual works arranged under
author entries. Four volumes; title index in Vol. 4.

SHORT STORIES: SOURCES FOR CRITICISM

Ref The Afro-American Short Story:
Z A Comprehensive, Annotated Index with
1229 Selected Commentaries
N39
Y36 Author and title indexes, chronology of
1986 when stories were published with cross
references to author and commentaries.
Three hundred authors and over eight hundred
fifty stories are listed. Published in 1986.
Use this as a source for locating primary
sources in anthologies, collections,
periodicals.

Ref Magill: Critical Survey of Short Fiction
PN
3321 This is a very useful source for criticism of
C7 short fiction. Biographical and analytical
entries. Short bibliographies at the ends of
articles. An author/title index is located in the
back of volume 7. Volumes 1 and 2 contain essays
on the history and craft of short fiction from
various cultures and time periods.

Ref Short Story Criticism
PN
3373 Similar to Contemporary Literary Criticism. Entries
S56 consist of excerpts of criticism with full citations.
(You may then go to P.A.S.L. or ALADDIN to locate the
complete text of the criticism). Entries are
several pages long. There is a Story Title Index
and a Cumulative Index which cross references to
the entire Gale series.

Ref Twentieth Century Short Story Explication:
Z Interpretations, 1900-1966 of Short Fiction Since
5917 1800, 2nd. ed.
S5
W33 This is a useful checklist of criticism on short
stories; organized by author and story title.
Includes major authors from America and England as
well as several other non-English-language
countries. Author index.

Updated by:

Ref Twentieth Century Short Story Explication:
Z Interpretations, 1900-1975, of Short Fiction Since
5917 1800.
S5
W33 Full citations of the books used are listed
1977 in the back of the book under the name of the
critic. Index to authors. Various supplements to
these volumes are shelved with them.

Indexed in:

Ref Twentieth Century Short Story Explication:
Z An Index to the Third Edition and its
5917 five supplements, 1961-1991
S5
W332 You may need to ask a librarian for help in using
1992 this index, but it is quite useful.

POETRY: SOURCES FOR CRITICISM

REFERENCE BOOKS

(useful for background information on poets)

Ref Contemporary Poets
PR
603 "The entry for each poet consists of a biography,
C6 a complete list of separately published books, and a
1980 signed essay." Articles are two to three pages long.

Ref Magill's Critical Survey of Poetry
PR
502 "...a comprehensive overview of poets, their
C85 works, and the poetic genre in general." This
1992 is a good source for beginning your research.
Biographical information and analysis of major
poems. Arranged alphabetically by poet. The index
to poets and poem titles is in Volume 8.
A circulating edition is kept in the tower.

POETRY: SOURCES OF CRITICISM ON INDIVIDUAL POEMS

The titles listed here are arranged alphabetically by poet, and then, by title of the poem.

- Ref American and British Poetry.
Z A Guide to the Criticism, 1925-1973
1231
P7 One of the best places to start your search.
A44 Comprehensive. Includes criticism on poems of
1984 1000 lines or less. Sources include books and
 journal articles. Full citations are in "Sources,"
 pp. 475-486. Arranged alphabetically by poet.
- Ref An Index to Criticisms of British
PR and American Poetry
89
C5 "A ready-reference source for criticisms of poems by
 British and American poets." Covers "from the
 earliest period to the twentieth century." Entries
 are to citations in collections of criticism and in
 scholarly periodicals.
- Part 1 lists poets (arranged alphabetically), poem
 titles, and critic citations. Citations for
 criticism give the critic's name, page and entry
 number in brackets. Look up the critic's name in
 Part 2 to find the complete citation. A "List of
 Periodical Abbreviations" is on page X. There is an
 index to poem titles on pages 271-307.
- The citations are to articles and essays published
 between 1960 and 1970. Complicated to use, but you
 might find what you need here. Published in 1973.
- Ref Poetry Criticism
PN
1010 Another title from the Gale Literary Criticism
P64 Series. "...substantial critical excerpts and
 biographical information on the world's most
 frequently discussed and studied poets. . ." An
 ongoing series. The cumulative author index in the
 back of the newest volume will direct you to the
 correct volume of Poetry Criticism for your poet as
 well as other titles in the Gale Literary Criticism
 Series.

Ref Poetry Explication: A Checklist of Interpretation
Z Since 1925 of British and American Poems
2014 Past and Present
P7
K8 A source for criticism on major poems of British and
American authors. References are primarily to
journal articles. Arranged alphabetically by poet
and poem title. An important source. Up to date
through 1978.

Supplemented by:

Ref Guide to American Poetry Explication
Z Vol. 2: Modern and Contemporary
1231
PZ
L46
1989 and

Ref Guide to American Poetry Explication
Z Vol. 1: Colonial and Nineteenth Century
1231
P7
R66
1989 These volumes update Poetry Explication. They
give sources for criticism in journals and books.
Arranged by poet and then by poem title.
Abbreviations to journal titles are in the front.
Full citations to books are in "Main Sources
Consulted" at the back of the volumes.

POETRY: SOURCES FOR IN-DEPTH RESEARCH

(Use for less well known authors)

The following titles are useful for more extensive or in-depth
research. Some of the references in these bibliographies may
require the use of Interlibrary Loan (ask at the reference desk).

Ref Afro-American Poetry and Drama, 1760-
Z 1975: A Guide to Information Sources
1229
N39
A37 This is volume 17 of the "Gale Literatures
in English" series. It is comprehensive --
"the authors have tried to include all books and
pamphlets of poetry by black authors born in the
United States" and all plays of published
black playwrights. Part 1 includes references
to critical and historical studies relating to
Afro-American poetry. Part 2 is arranged
alphabetically by poet. Primary works are
listed first, followed by secondary works.
Part 2, the drama section, is arranged as
follows: 1) a brief list of major library

sources, 2) a list of Afro-American drama periodicals, 3) a list of general bibliographies, 4) collections of plays, 5) critical studies. Next is an alphabetical listing of playwrights with references to "published plays, unpublished plays, collected plays, biography and criticism." Author, title and subject indexes. Published in 1979.

Ref
Z
1231
P7
M37
1986

The Bibliography of Contemporary American Poetry, 1945-1985: An Annotated Checklist

This bibliography is a source of bibliographical studies on contemporary American poets. Entries are arranged alphabetically by poet. The individual "writings" concentrates on poets whose reputations have been established since 1945.

Ref
Z
1229
N39
C45
1986

Index to Poetry by Black American Women

If you need to locate a poem by a Black American Woman, this book will lead you to it. "In all, over four thousand poems by over four hundred female poets are included. . .The volume is organized in three major sections: the Title and First Line Index, the Author Index, and the Subject Index." Abbreviations are explained in the "Key to Abbreviations for Books Indexed."

Ref
Z
1361
N39
P6

North American Negro Poets:
A Bibliographical Checklist of Their
Writings, 1760-1944

"Books and pamphlets by individual poets; anthologies edited by Negro authors and a few printed broadsides." Gives locations for items. Most items would require inter-library loan.

DRAMA: SOURCES FOR CRITICISM

REFERENCE BOOKS

In addition to standard sources such as the Gale Literary Criticism Series, you might find the following useful.

- Ref Black American Playwrights, 1800 to the
Z Present: A Bibliography
1229
N39 Lists "black playwrights and their works,
A7 together with criticisms, reviews and
 awards." Includes a general bibliography
 with full citations, and an index of titles.
 Published in 1976. Updated by More Black
 American Playwrights: A Bibliography, which
 adds an additional three hundred authors.
 (Ref Z1229 N39 A73). Published in 1978.
 Both of these are good sources for reviews.
- Ref Early Black American Playwrights and
PS Dramatic Writers: A Biographical Directory
153 and Catalog of Plays, Films, and
N5 Broadcasting Scripts
P44
1990 Includes biographical material, an annotated
 list of major works, lists of "Other Pertinent
 Writings" and sources for further reference.
- Ref Magill: Critical Survey of Drama.
PN English Language Series
1721
C74 Long biographical and analytical entries.
1985 Short bibliographies at the ends of articles.
6 vols. Author/title index is located in the back of
 Vol. 6. Analytical synopses of major plays.
 This is an excellent source for criticism.

DRAMA: CHECKLISTS AND COLLECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHIES

- Ref American Drama Criticism, Interpretations, 1890
Z -1977
1231
D7 "Interpretations of American plays published in
P3 books, periodicals, and monographs...alpha-
1979 batical by playwrights, with plays alphabetized
 under the playwright's name."

Updated by a supplement (Ref Z1231 D7 P3 1984).

Ref
Z
1231
D7
C6

Drama Criticism

Vol. 1, 1966

Vol. 1: A checklist of interpretations since 1940 of English and American Plays--from the earliest known plays to those of the 20th century. This source gives references to criticism appearing in periodicals and books published between 1940 and 1964.

Ref
Z
5781
C37
1986

Modern Drama: Scholarship and Criticism, 1966-1980, an International Bibliography

"[A] classified, selective list of publications [books and journals] on world drama since Ibsen." Approaches drama as literature. Entries are arranged by nationality and then alphabetically by playwright. Listings are extensive but not subdivided by play titles. See abbreviations (pp. 3-14) for full titles of journals. This bibliography is a major reference source for drama criticism; however, some of the sources cited will require interlibrary loan.

Ref
Z
5781
R47
1986

Research Guide to Bibliography and Criticism: World Drama

Includes for each author: annotated bibliographies of sources for biographies, autobiographies, critical sources, and a list of additional sources, including relevant dictionaries and encyclopedias. Indexed. An excellent reference for in-depth research on a playwright.

BOOK REVIEWS

For some authors, book reviews may be the only source of criticism you will be able to find. For other authors, book reviews are excellent supplements to the information located in books and reference works.

The two best sources for book reviews are:

INDEX Book Review Digest
Z
1219 "Book Review Digest provides excerpts and
C95 citations to reviews of current fiction and
 non-fiction written in English. Arranged
 by author and then by book title. Use the
 index for the year your book was first
 published and the following year's index.

Yearly since 1905.

INDEX Book Review Index
Z
1035 Indexes more sources than Book Review Digest,
A1 but does not provide excerpts. Begins with
B6 1965. 1965 through 1968 are yearly volumes.
 1969 through 1979 are cumulated and after
 that the index is again yearly. Entries are
 arranged by author and then by book title.
 Codes for sources are explained in the front
 of each volume.

See also the book review sections at the ends of:

Humanities Index (INDEX AI3 R492)

Library Literature (INDEX Z666 S211)

InfoTrac is also an excellent source for book reviews written within the past five to ten years. Be sure to consult both parts of the "Expanded Academic Index" and the "Newspaper Index."

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

- Ref Black Authors and Illustrators of Children's
Z Books: A Biographical Dictionary
1037
R63 "[A]. . .reference volume in which the works
1988 of black authors and artists are recognized in
 relation to their particular contributions to
 children's literature." The 115 entries are
 to 20th century authors or illustrators.
 Arrangement is alphabetical. Contains a
 selected bibliography of primary sources.
 There are no references to criticism.
- Tower The Black Experience in Children's Books
Z
1361 Geographical and thematic approach.
N39 Annotated. Published in 1971.
B2 Two volumes. Kept in the tower.
1971

PERIODICAL INDEXES

Most journals are indexed in one or more periodical indexes. Indexes range from the very broad in scope to those more specialized by discipline. Indexes are generally arranged alphabetically by subject; relevant citations follow each heading. The citation includes:

Author(s) of the journal article
Title of the journal article
a list of abbreviation is located
in the front of the index volume
Volume number, and if available, issue
number of the journal
Page(s) on which the article appears
Date of the journal

title of article

**Naming and power in Zora Neale Hurston's *Their eyes
were watching God*. S. King. *bibl Black Am Lit Forum*
24:683-96 Wint' 90**

volume number	date pages	author of article	title of journal (abbreviated) abbreviation
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INDEX
Z
2001
M69

Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature (ABELL) V. 1- 1920-

This index is useful for in-depth research. It indexes journals, bulletins, newsletters, etc. Arranged chronologically. Look in the table of contents in order to locate sections on 19th and 20th century American authors. Once you are in the correct section, look for your author by his or her name.

INDEX
PE
1
A2

Abstracts of English Studies
v. 1-21 1958-78 (22 1978-79) 23- 1979-

This is a quarterly index to articles (with short abstracts) dealing with American and English literature.

You find the author's name in a cumulated "Index C" in the back of each volume. Periodical abbreviations are explained in "Index A".

Atkins Library subscribes to many of the journals indexed in this source.

INDEX
AI
3
E752

Essay and General Literature Index
1900-

This is an important bibliographical index to collections of essays in books. The emphasis is on the humanities and the social sciences. Material under a person (author, etc.) is arranged as follows: 1. Author's works; 2. Works about the author (biographical or overall discussions of his/her work); 3. Criticism. Semiannual with a permanent cumulation every five years.

Atkins Library purchases all of the books indexed, making this an especially useful source. Check ALADDIN call numbers.

INDEX
AI
3
R492

Humanities Index
1974-

Cumulative index to English-language periodicals. Author and subject entries are in one alphabet. It includes language and literature subjects as well as other humanities areas.

This is an excellent index for articles on African-American authors.

INDEX
AI
3
I57

Index to Black Periodicals
1984-

Index to Periodicals By and About Blacks
1973-1983

Index to Periodicals By and About Negroes
1960-70-72

Index to Selected Periodicals Received in the Mallie O. Brown Library
1950-59

"An index to Afro-American periodicals of general and scholarly interest. Author and subject entries are interfiled in a single alphabet. Uses Library of Congress subject headings.

Microfilm
AI
3
G84

Guide to Negro Periodical Literature

Precedes the above printed indexes. Use for in-depth research. Four volumes on one reel. Kept in the 2nd floor periodicals microfilm collection.

INDEX
Z
7006
M64

MLA-International Bibliography
1926-

The MLA is a major index to books and articles published on modern languages, literature, folklore, and linguistics. Since it is available in CD-ROM format starting with 1981, it is mainly useful for locating articles, books, and dissertations published prior to that time period.

From 1981 to the present, this index consists of two parts. Prior years were complete in one volume and are arranged in a similar fashion to Part 1 of the index as it is now formatted. Part 1 is arranged by country or type of literature and then by period and author. Volume I contains citations to British and American literature. Most references to African-American authors will be listed in the section "American Literature 1900-1999."

From Part 1, Volume I

- Novel: Their Eyes Were Watching God (1937)*
- [9266] Carr, Pat. Crossover. Low Arts. Pulling in the Historic. Death, gender, and kabies in Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. *Manatee County Rawlins Journal of Florida Literature* 1997, 4, 51-57. [Treatment of kabies.]
- [9267] Clark, W. Jay. Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. *Epiphany Love Mystery*. *MLAIB* 1997, Dec. 30, 1997, 1. [Treatment of Epiphany Sources in New Testament Epiphany.]
- [9268] Dalgarno, Emily. "Work Wallowing without Masters": Ethnography and the Creative Process. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. *MLAIB* 1997, Sept. 6(43), 519-3. [Role of ethnography in creative process.]
- [9269] Daniel, James. "De Understanding to Clo' Long Well": Realism and Romanticism in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. *MLAIB* 1997, Feb. 3(1), 66-76. [Realism.]
- [9270] Hattenhauer, Darryl. Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. *Epiphany*. White. 50(2), 111-17. [Treatment of gender/justice.]
- [9271] Holloway, Karl L. C. Holy Heat: Rituals of the Spirit in Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. *R&L* 1997, Autumn, 73(3), 127-41. [Treatment of spiritual growth.]

Look up the abbreviations for periodical titles in the front pages of Part 1.

Part 2 is arranged in alphabetical order by subject and serves as an index to Part 1. The Roman numeral refers to the volume of Part 1 and the rest of the number to the specific entry.

Part 2 indicates the CLASSIFIED section in PART 1 for a given author or entry and also lists entries that will not be found directly under the author's name. Full citations are in Part 1.

MLA on CD-ROM

The easiest way for you to search for recent journal articles on the works of an author or a literary topic will be to use the computerized version of the MLA International Bibliography. The volumes since 1981 to within a few months of the present are available in CD-ROM (compact disk, read only memory) format. This version of the MLA contains a year or so more information than the printed index. You may search by author, title of work, and by keyword. Two keywords, such as an author's last name and a theme or an identifying word from a title or theory, may be combined using "boolean" commands ("and," "or"). You will not need to search on the word "criticism" because just about everything in the index refers to criticism.

You may limit your search by language, by publication type, and by date of publication. There is a handout near the machines which explains how to use the various searching strategies. You are encouraged to make an appointment in advance to use MLA on CD-ROM. If you need assistance a librarian will help you.

Notes and WORD OF WARNING:

1. Both the printed and the computerized versions of the MLA International Bibliography contain references to books and doctoral dissertations as well as to articles. Atkins library does not have any of the dissertations. These will be listed as DAI in the printed version and Dissertations Abstracts International in the computerized version of the index. You can limit a search in the computer to find references by a specific publication type, for example, periodical articles and books, but not dissertations. (You enter the phrase pt=journal article and combine the result with the "set number" for your search.). The books listed are books of essays. Check for them in ALADDIN by the title of the book (not the book chapter) or by the editor's name (this comes after the word "IN" in the CD version). Also, there are many foreign language articles in the index. You can also limit your search by language when using the CD (For example: enter the phrase lang=english. Combine this with your results from your search.). The library does not own all of the items referenced in the MLA. If we do not have the source you need, you may try to get it via interlibrary loan (this takes 2 to 4 weeks).

2. Finally, do not depend on either version of the MLA for all of your research. In many if not most cases, there will be better and easier-to-locate sources of information in books and reference books. The MLA is important for recent information. However, the MLA (both printed and CD-ROM versions) is not the best source for authors who have themselves recently (the time will vary) started publishing. If you do not find much about a new author in this source try InfoTrac, or, try Book Review Index or Book Review Digest.