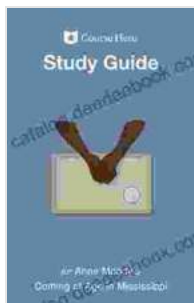


Study Guide for Anne Moody's Coming of Age in Mississippi: A Deep Dive into the Jim Crow South

Anne Moody's memoir, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, is a powerful and moving account of growing up Black in the Jim Crow South. First published in 1968, the book has become a classic of American literature and a valuable resource for understanding the complexities of race and racism in the United States.

This study guide provides a comprehensive overview of *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, including a summary of the plot, an analysis of the characters, and a discussion of the book's major themes. It also includes questions for discussion and further study, as well as a list of additional resources.



Study Guide for Anne Moody's Coming of Age in Mississippi (Course Hero Study Guides) by Course Hero

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1277 KB

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 46 pages

Lending : Enabled



Summary

Coming of Age in Mississippi tells the story of Anne Moody's childhood and adolescence in the small town of Centreville, Mississippi. Moody's family is

poor and Black, and she experiences firsthand the racism and discrimination that is rampant in the Jim Crow South. Despite the challenges she faces, Moody is determined to get an education and make a better life for herself.

The book begins with Moody's early childhood, when she first becomes aware of the racism that surrounds her. She recalls being called names, being denied access to public places, and being subjected to violence simply because of her race. As she gets older, Moody becomes increasingly aware of the injustice of the Jim Crow system and begins to fight back against it.

In high school, Moody joins the NAACP and participates in sit-ins and other forms of protest. She is arrested and jailed several times, but she never gives up on her fight for justice. After graduating from high school, Moody leaves Mississippi to attend college in the North. She eventually becomes a successful writer and activist, but she never forgets the experiences that shaped her childhood.

Characters

Anne Moody is the central character in *Coming of Age in Mississippi*. She is a strong and determined young woman who is determined to overcome the challenges she faces. Moody is also a gifted writer, and her memoir is a powerful and moving account of her life.

In addition to Anne Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi* features a number of other memorable characters. These include:

* **Mama:** Anne Moody's mother is a strong and hardworking woman who is determined to provide a better life for her children. Despite the challenges she faces, Mama never gives up on her dreams. * **Daddy:** Anne Moody's father is a kind and gentle man who loves his family deeply. However, Daddy is also a victim of the Jim Crow system and is unable to find a good job. * **Brother Cecil:** Anne Moody's older brother is a talented musician who dreams of becoming a professional singer. However, Cecil's dreams are cut short when he is killed by a white man. * **Sister Irene:** Anne Moody's younger sister is a bright and inquisitive girl who is eager to learn about the world. Irene is also a victim of the Jim Crow system, and she is often denied access to the same opportunities as her white classmates.

Themes

Coming of Age in Mississippi explores a number of complex and important themes, including:

* **Race and racism:** Coming of Age in Mississippi is a powerful indictment of the Jim Crow system. Moody vividly depicts the racism and discrimination that Black people face in the South, and she shows how it affects their lives in every way. * **Coming of age:** Coming of Age in Mississippi is also a coming-of-age story. Moody tells the story of her journey from childhood to adulthood, and she shows how the experiences she has shape her into the woman she becomes. * **Education:** Education plays a central role in Coming of Age in Mississippi. Moody believes that education is the key to a better life, and she is determined to get an education despite the challenges she faces. * **Hope and resilience:** Despite the challenges she faces, Moody never gives up on her dreams. She is a symbol of hope and resilience, and her story is an inspiration to anyone who has ever faced adversity.

Discussion Questions

1. How does *Coming of Age in Mississippi* depict the impact of racism on Black people in the Jim Crow South? 2. What are some of the ways that Anne Moody fights back against racism? 3. How does Anne Moody's education shape her life? 4. What are some of the challenges that Anne Moody faces as she comes of age? 5. How does Anne Moody's story inspire hope and resilience?

Further Study

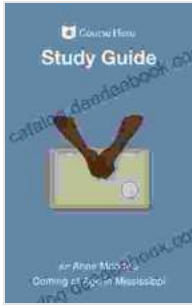
* [Anne Moody's *Coming of Age in Mississippi*: A Critical Companion] (<https://www.amazon.com/Anne-Moodys-Coming-Mississippi-Critical/dp/0820343418>) * [Coming of Age in Mississippi: An Interview with Anne Moody] (<https://www.neh.gov/humanities/2007/janfeb/feature/coming-age-mississippi-interview-anne-moody>) * [Anne Moody: A Voice for the Civil Rights Movement] (<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/anne-moody>)

Additional Resources

* [The Anne Moody Collection] (https://www.olemiss.edu/depts/ms_coll/holdings/moody-anne.html) at the University of Mississippi * [The Anne Moody Papers] (<https://www.lib.umich.edu/collections/anne-moody-papers>) at the University of Michigan * [The Anne Moody Center for the Study of Civil Rights] (<https://www.jsums.edu/anne-moody-center>) at Jackson State University

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