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***A Raisin in the Sun* and Lorraine Hansberry**

**Introduction**

**PowerPoint Notes**

Schooling

* Hansberry's parents sent her to public schools rather than private ones \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - University of Wisconsin and in Mexico
* Hansberry became interested in drama while she was in college

Parents

* Hansberry's parents were intellectuals and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Father was an active member of the Republican Party
* He won an antisegregation case before the Illinois Supreme Court, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Childhood

* Born in Chicago, 1930
* Family moved to a previously \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when young
* Later, Hansberry recalled "being spat at, cursed, and pummeled" as she walked to and from school.
* A court order eventually threw the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as they were met by a racist mob.

About Hansberry

* 1953, married Robert Nemiroff, a Jewish literature student and songwriter,
* Met husband on a picket line protesting discrimination at New York University
* Worked as a waitress and cashier, writing on her spare time
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

About Hansberry continued

* 1950, dropped out of college and moved to New York
* Took classes in writing at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Worked as an associate editor of Paul Robeson's *Freedom*
* During this period she met among others the famous writer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Influences

* Her first play, *A Raisin in the Sun,* is based partially on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Title from a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  poem,
	+ "What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun, Or does it explode?"

Hansberry’s Death

* 1930-1965
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hansberry’s Legacy

* Hansberry contributed to the understanding of abortion, discrimination, and Africa.
* Joined the Daughters of Bilitis and contributed letters to their magazine, *The Ladder*, in 1957 -addressed feminism and homophobia.
* In San Francisco, *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*, specializes in original stagings and revivals of African-American theatre, is named in her honor
* Lincoln University's first-year female dormitory is named \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* School in the Bronx called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in St. Albans, New York named after her

*A Raisin in the Sun*

* Opened in March 1959, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from white and black audience members alike
* Arguably the first play to portray black characters, themes, and conflicts in a natural and realistic manner
* received the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for Best Play of the Year
* Hansberry was the youngest playwright, the fifth woman, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at that point to win the award
* considered a turning point in American art; addresses so many issues imp. during the 1950s in the U.S.
* The stereotype of 1950s America as a land of happy housewives and blacks content with their inferior status resulted in an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that would finally find public voice in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ movements of the 1960s\

Walter Lee Younger

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the play
* a dreamer
* wants to be rich
* devises plans to acquire \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with his friends
* wants to invest his father’s insurance money \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Beneatha Younger - “Bennie”

* Mama’s daughter and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* an intellectual; twenty years old,
* attends college and is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than the rest of the Youngers
* personal beliefs and views have distanced her from conservative Mama
* dreams of being a doctor
* struggles to determine \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as a well-educated black woman

Lena Younger – “Mama”

* Walter and Beneatha’s mother
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the family, Mama is religious, moral, and maternal
* wants to use her husband’s insurance money as a down payment on a house with a backyard to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ruth Younger

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* takes care of the Youngers’ small apartment
* Her marriage to Walter has problems, but she hopes to rekindle their love
* about thirty, but her weariness makes her seem older
* Constantly fighting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, she continues to be an emotionally strong woman