

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN: AN IN-DEPTH EXPLORATION OF THE CLASSIC NOVEL

INTRODUCTION TO "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN"

"GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" IS A SEMINAL WORK OF AMERICAN LITERATURE PENNED BY JAMES BALDWIN. FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1953, THIS SEMI-AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL DELVES INTO THEMES OF FAITH, IDENTITY, RACE, AND FAMILY WITHIN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY. RECOGNIZED FOR ITS LYRICAL PROSE AND PROFOUND PSYCHOLOGICAL INSIGHT, THE BOOK REMAINS A CORNERSTONE IN UNDERSTANDING THE COMPLEXITIES OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE IN THE MID-20TH CENTURY. THIS COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE EXPLORES THE NOVEL'S PLOT, THEMES, CHARACTERS, HISTORICAL CONTEXT, AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE IN AMERICAN LITERARY CANON.

OVERVIEW OF THE PLOT

"GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" TRACES THE LIFE OF JOHN GRIMES, A YOUNG BOY GROWING UP IN HARLEM DURING THE 1930S. THE NARRATIVE IS STRUCTURED AROUND JOHN'S PERSONAL JOURNEY AND THE INTERCONNECTED STORIES OF HIS FAMILY MEMBERS.

THE FAMILY DYNAMICS

THE NOVEL PRESENTS A LAYERED PORTRAIT OF THE GRIMES FAMILY, HIGHLIGHTING THE INFLUENCE OF RELIGION, SOCIETAL EXPECTATIONS, AND PERSONAL STRUGGLES. KEY FAMILY MEMBERS INCLUDE:

- GABRIEL GRIMES: JOHN'S STRICT AND RELIGIOUS FATHER, A PENTECOSTAL PREACHER.
- ELIJAH GRIMES: JOHN'S MOTHER, WHOSE TROUBLED PAST INFLUENCES HER PRESENT LIFE.
- ELIZABETH: JOHN'S SISTER, GRAPPLING WITH HER OWN IDENTITY AND FAITH.
- REVEREND JAMES: GABRIEL'S BROTHER, A PREACHER WITH HIS OWN COMPLEX HISTORY.

THEMATIC NARRATIVE ARC

THE NOVEL UNFOLDS THROUGH MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES, REVEALING:

- JOHN'S INTERNAL CONFLICT BETWEEN FAITH AND DOUBT.
- GABRIEL'S STRUGGLES WITH AUTHORITY, GUILT, AND SPIRITUAL SALVATION.
- THE GENERATIONAL TENSIONS STEMMING FROM PAST SINS AND SOCIETAL PRESSURES.

THE CLIMAX OF THE STORY OCCURS DURING A NIGHT OF INTENSE SPIRITUAL REVIVAL, WHERE CHARACTERS CONFRONT THEIR FAITH AND PERSONAL DEMONS.

MAJOR THEMES EXPLORED IN THE NOVEL

"GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" EXAMINES SEVERAL PROFOUND THEMES THAT RESONATE ACROSS GENERATIONS AND CULTURES. HERE ARE THE CENTRAL THEMES WITH DETAILED INSIGHTS:

FAITH AND RELIGION

- THE NOVEL PORTRAYS THE POWERFUL INFLUENCE OF PENTECOSTAL CHRISTIANITY IN SHAPING PERSONAL IDENTITIES.
- IT EXPLORES THE CONFLICTS BETWEEN GENUINE SPIRITUAL FAITH AND INSTITUTIONAL RELIGIOUS PRACTICES.
- CHARACTERS GRAPPLE WITH QUESTIONS OF SALVATION, SIN, AND REDEMPTION.

RACE AND IDENTITY

- BALDWIN ADDRESSES SYSTEMIC RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND ITS PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT.
- THE CHARACTERS' EXPERIENCES REFLECT THE STRUGGLE FOR DIGNITY AND SELF-AWARENESS AMIDST SOCIETAL OPPRESSION.
- THE NARRATIVE UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE AND RESILIENCE.

FAMILY AND LEGACY

- INTERGENERATIONAL CONFLICTS HIGHLIGHT HOW FAMILY HISTORY INFLUENCES INDIVIDUAL CHOICES.
- THEMES OF GUILT, FORGIVENESS, AND RECONCILIATION ARE CENTRAL TO UNDERSTANDING PERSONAL GROWTH.
- THE NOVEL EMPHASIZES THE SIGNIFICANCE OF UNDERSTANDING ONE'S ROOTS TO FORGE A FUTURE.

PERSONAL STRUGGLE AND SELF-DISCOVERY

- JOHN'S JOURNEY SYMBOLIZES THE UNIVERSAL QUEST FOR IDENTITY AND PURPOSE.
- THE CHARACTERS' INTERNAL CONFLICTS MIRROR BROADER SOCIETAL STRUGGLES WITH MORALITY AND SELF-ACCEPTANCE.

CHARACTER ANALYSIS

UNDERSTANDING THE CHARACTERS IS ESSENTIAL TO GRASPING THE NOVEL'S DEPTH. HERE IS AN OVERVIEW OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS:

JOHN GRIMES

- THE PROTAGONIST, A YOUNG BOY NAVIGATING FAITH, FAMILY, AND SELF-IDENTITY.
- SYMBOLIZES INNOCENCE AND THE SEARCH FOR SPIRITUAL TRUTH.
- HIS INTERNAL BATTLES REFLECT BALDWIN'S THEMES OF AWAKENING AND AWAKENING TO TRUTH.

GABRIEL GRIMES

- JOHN'S FATHER, A STERN PENTECOSTAL PREACHER.
- EMBODIES AUTHORITY, GUILT, AND SPIRITUAL FERVOR.
- HIS STRUGGLES WITH PAST SINS INFLUENCE HIS RIGID WORLDVIEW.

REVEREND JAMES

- GABRIEL'S BROTHER, A PREACHER WITH A HISTORY OF PERSONAL FAILURE.
- REPRESENTS THE POSSIBILITY OF REDEMPTION AND THE COMPLEXITY OF FAITH.

ELIZABETH

- JOHN'S MOTHER, A COMPLEX CHARACTER BATTLING HER OWN PAST.
- HER EXPERIENCES HIGHLIGHT THEMES OF SUFFERING, RESILIENCE, AND MATERNAL LOVE.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

UNDERSTANDING THE ERA IN WHICH "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" WAS WRITTEN ENRICHES ITS INTERPRETATION.

POST-DEPRESSION AMERICA AND THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

- THE NOVEL IS SET AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF THE 1930s, A PERIOD MARKED BY ECONOMIC HARDSHIP AND RACIAL SEGREGATION.
- HARLEM WAS A HUB OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL EXPRESSION, WHICH INFLUENCED BALDWIN'S DEPICTION OF COMMUNITY LIFE.

RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS

- PENTECOSTALISM WAS A DOMINANT RELIGIOUS FORCE AMONG AFRICAN AMERICANS, EMPHASIZING EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION AND DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH GOD.
- BALDWIN CRITICALLY EXAMINES THESE RELIGIOUS PRACTICES, REVEALING BOTH THEIR EMPOWERING ASPECTS AND POTENTIAL FOR FANATICISM.

JIM CROW LAWS AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

- THE PERVASIVE RACIAL INJUSTICES OF THE ERA INFORM THE CHARACTERS' EXPERIENCES.
- BALDWIN'S PORTRAYAL UNDERSCORES THE SOCIETAL BARRIERS FACED BY BLACK AMERICANS.

LITERARY SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT

"GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" HOLDS A DISTINGUISHED PLACE IN AMERICAN LITERATURE FOR SEVERAL REASONS:

LITERARY STYLE AND TECHNIQUE

- BALDWIN EMPLOYS LYRICAL PROSE, POETIC IMAGERY, AND STREAM-OF-CONSCIOUSNESS TECHNIQUES.
- THE NOVEL'S STRUCTURE INTERWEAVES MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES, PROVIDING A MULTIFACETED VIEW OF ITS THEMES.

INFLUENCE ON CIVIL RIGHTS AND LITERATURE

- THE BOOK IS CONSIDERED A PIONEERING WORK ADDRESSING RACIAL IDENTITY AND RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE.
- IT HAS INSPIRED COUNTLESS WRITERS AND ACTIVISTS EXPLORING THEMES OF RACIAL JUSTICE AND SPIRITUAL AWAKENING.

CRITICAL RECEPTION

- UPON RELEASE, THE NOVEL RECEIVED ACCLAIM FOR ITS RAW HONESTY AND LITERARY CRAFTSMANSHIP.
- OVER TIME, IT HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AS A FOUNDATIONAL TEXT FOR UNDERSTANDING AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE.

LEGACY AND MODERN RELEVANCE

TODAY, "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" CONTINUES TO RESONATE WITH READERS ACROSS GENERATIONS. ITS THEMES REMAIN RELEVANT IN DISCUSSIONS ABOUT RACE, FAITH, AND PERSONAL IDENTITY.

EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

- WIDELY STUDIED IN LITERATURE COURSES, IT OFFERS INSIGHTS INTO AMERICAN HISTORY AND RACIAL DYNAMICS.
- ITS COMPLEX CHARACTERS AND POETIC LANGUAGE SERVE AS VALUABLE TEACHING TOOLS.

CONTEMPORARY CULTURAL IMPACT

- THE NOVEL'S INFLUENCE EXTENDS INTO MUSIC, THEATER, AND POPULAR CULTURE.
- ITS TITLE HAS BECOME A SYMBOL OF COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION AND SPIRITUAL ASSERTION.

WHERE TO EXPERIENCE "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN"

FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN EXPLORING BALDWIN'S MASTERPIECE, CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

1. **READING THE ORIGINAL TEXT:** AVAILABLE IN BOOKSTORES, LIBRARIES, AND ONLINE PLATFORMS.
2. **ADAPTATIONS:** THE NOVEL HAS BEEN ADAPTED INTO PLAYS, FILMS, AND RADIO PERFORMANCES, OFFERING DIVERSE WAYS TO EXPERIENCE ITS STORY.
3. **LITERARY DISCUSSIONS AND BOOK CLUBS:** PARTICIPATING IN DISCUSSIONS CAN DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF ITS THEMES AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.

CONCLUSION

"GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" IS MUCH MORE THAN A NOVEL; IT IS A POWERFUL EXPLORATION OF FAITH, RACE, FAMILY, AND PERSONAL IDENTITY. BALDWIN'S MASTERFUL STORYTELLING INVITES READERS TO CONFRONT DIFFICULT TRUTHS ABOUT SOCIETY AND ONESELF. ITS ENDURING RELEVANCE MAKES IT AN ESSENTIAL READ FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN AMERICAN HISTORY, AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURE, AND THE ENDURING HUMAN QUEST FOR SELF-UNDERSTANDING. WHETHER APPROACHED AS A LITERARY MASTERPIECE OR A CULTURAL DOCUMENT, BALDWIN'S WORK CONTINUES TO INSPIRE AND CHALLENGE READERS AROUND THE WORLD.

META DESCRIPTION: DISCOVER AN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" BY JAMES BALDWIN, EXPLORING ITS PLOT, THEMES, CHARACTERS, HISTORICAL CONTEXT, AND SIGNIFICANCE IN AMERICAN LITERATURE.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE MAIN THEME OF 'GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN'?

THE NOVEL EXPLORES THEMES OF FAITH, IDENTITY, FAMILY, AND THE STRUGGLE FOR SELF-UNDERSTANDING WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF AFRICAN AMERICAN RELIGIOUS LIFE IN THE 1930S.

WHO IS THE PROTAGONIST IN 'GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN'?

THE STORY CENTERS AROUND JOHN GRIMES, A YOUNG BOY GRAPPLING WITH HIS FAITH, FAMILY EXPECTATIONS, AND PERSONAL IDENTITY.

How does James Baldwin depict religion in 'Go Tell It on the Mountain'?

Baldwin presents religion as both a source of comfort and a complex force that can lead to guilt, repression, and conflict within individuals and families.

What role does the setting play in 'Go Tell It on the Mountain'?

Set in 1930s Harlem and Tennessee, the setting reflects the social and racial dynamics of the era, shaping the characters' experiences and struggles.

Why is 'Go Tell It on the Mountain' considered a semi-autobiographical novel?

James Baldwin drew heavily from his own childhood and family experiences to craft the story, making it a semi-autobiographical work that reflects personal and cultural truths.

What has been the critical reception of 'Go Tell It on the Mountain'?

Since its publication in 1953, the novel has been acclaimed as a powerful and poetic exploration of race, religion, and identity, cementing its status as a classic in American literature.

Additional Resources

Go Tell It on the Mountain is a profound and compelling novel by James Baldwin that delves into themes of faith, identity, family, and the African American experience. As one of Baldwin's most influential works, it offers readers a powerful exploration of personal and collective struggles, set against the backdrop of 1930s Harlem. This guide aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the novel's themes, characters, and literary significance, helping readers appreciate its enduring relevance and artistic depth.

Introduction to "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Published in 1953, "Go Tell It on the Mountain" is Baldwin's semi-autobiographical first novel. The story centers around John Grimes, a young boy grappling with questions of faith, identity, and belonging. Through the lens of his family and community, Baldwin explores the complex intersections of race, religion, and personal growth. The novel takes its title from the spiritual song "Go Tell It on the Mountain," emphasizing the importance of storytelling, faith, and communal history.

Historical and Cultural Context

Understanding "Go Tell It on the Mountain" requires recognizing its historical setting:

- **Harlem Renaissance and Great Migration:** The novel is set in Harlem during the 1930s, a time when African Americans were asserting their identity and cultural pride amid social and economic challenges.
- **Religious Movements:** The prominence of Pentecostal and Baptist churches in Harlem influences the characters' spiritual lives.
- **Racial Discrimination:** Segregation, racism, and economic hardship form the backdrop for the characters' struggles, highlighting systemic inequalities.

THIS CONTEXT ENRICHES THE NARRATIVE, ILLUSTRATING HOW EXTERNAL FORCES SHAPE INDIVIDUAL JOURNEYS.

MAJOR THEMES IN "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN"

1. FAITH AND RELIGION

BALDWIN EXAMINES THE ROLE OF CHRISTIANITY—PARTICULARLY PENTECOSTALISM—IN SHAPING IDENTITY AND COMMUNITY. RELIGIOUS FERVOR PROVIDES COMFORT AND GUIDANCE BUT ALSO IMPOSES GUILT AND CONFORMITY. KEY POINTS INCLUDE:

- THE TENSION BETWEEN SPIRITUAL SALVATION AND PERSONAL AUTHENTICITY.
- THE INFLUENCE OF CHURCH LEADERS AND THE CONCEPT OF DIVINE JUDGMENT.
- THE CONTRAST BETWEEN GENUINE FAITH AND OPPRESSIVE RELIGIOUS DOGMA.

2. FAMILY AND LEGACY

FAMILY DYNAMICS ARE CENTRAL, WITH COMPLEX RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN:

- THE PATRIARCH, GABRIEL, WHOSE RIGID RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PAST SINS INFLUENCE HIS AUTHORITY.
- THE MOTHER, ELIZABETH, WHOSE OWN STRUGGLES AND SACRIFICES SHAPE HER CHILDREN.
- THE CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY JOHN, NAVIGATING THEIR PARENTS' EXPECTATIONS VERSUS THEIR OWN DESIRES.

THEMES INCLUDE GENERATIONAL CONFLICT, THE WEIGHT OF FAMILY HISTORY, AND THE DESIRE FOR SELF-DEFINITION.

3. RACE AND IDENTITY

BALDWIN EXPLORES HOW RACE IMPACTS PERSONAL AND COMMUNAL IDENTITY:

- THE INTERNALIZED RACISM AND SOCIETAL DISCRIMINATION FACED BY THE CHARACTERS.
- THE SEARCH FOR DIGNITY AMID SYSTEMIC OPPRESSION.
- THE ROLE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ANCESTRAL HISTORY.

4. PERSONAL GROWTH AND SELF-DISCOVERY

THROUGHOUT THE NOVEL, CHARACTERS CONFRONT THEIR PASTS AND QUESTION THEIR BELIEFS:

- JOHN'S JOURNEY TOWARD UNDERSTANDING HIMSELF BEYOND RELIGIOUS DOGMA.
- THE EXPERIENCE OF GUILT, SHAME, AND REDEMPTION.
- THE PURSUIT OF INDIVIDUAL AGENCY IN A RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

1. JOHN GRIMES

- THE PROTAGONIST AND NARRATOR.
- A YOUNG BOY SEEKING IDENTITY AND SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING.
- HIS INTERNAL CONFLICT BETWEEN FAITH AND DOUBT DRIVES MUCH OF THE NARRATIVE.

2. GABRIEL

- JOHN'S STEPFATHER AND A STERN PREACHER.

- REPRESENTS AUTHORITY, RELIGIOUS ZEAL, AND THE BURDEN OF SIN.
- HIS PAST SINS AND STRICT DEMEANOR INFLUENCE FAMILY DYNAMICS.

3. ELIZABETH

- JOHN'S MOTHER AND GABRIEL'S WIFE.
- A NURTURING FIGURE SHAPED BY HARDSHIP AND FAITH.
- HER SACRIFICES AND RESILIENCE ARE PIVOTAL TO THE FAMILY.

4. FLORENCE

- JOHN'S SISTER.
- EMBODIES INNOCENCE AND THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE.
- HER RELATIONSHIP WITH HER FAMILY HIGHLIGHTS GENERATIONAL TENSIONS.

5. REVEREND WRIGHT

- THE CHARISMATIC PREACHER AT THE CHURCH.
- HIS SERMONS AND LEADERSHIP IMPACT THE COMMUNITY'S SPIRITUAL LIFE.

LITERARY DEVICES AND STYLE

BALDWIN'S WRITING STYLE IN "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" IS CHARACTERIZED BY:

- AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL TONE: THE NOVEL BLURS LINES BETWEEN FICTION AND BALDWIN'S OWN EXPERIENCES.
- USE OF SYMBOLISM: THE MOUNTAIN IN THE TITLE SYMBOLIZES SPIRITUAL ELEVATION, COMMUNITY, AND THE BURDEN OF HISTORY.
- VIVID IMAGERY: BALDWIN EMPLOYS EVOCATIVE DESCRIPTIONS TO CAPTURE HARLEM'S ATMOSPHERE AND CHARACTERS' INNER WORLDS.
- DIALOGUE AND VERNACULAR: REALISTIC SPEECH PATTERNS DEEPEN CHARACTER AUTHENTICITY.

THE NARRATIVE STRUCTURE EMPLOYS A MIX OF THIRD-PERSON NARRATION AND INTERNAL MONOLOGUE, ALLOWING READERS INSIGHT INTO JOHN'S THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS.

CRITICAL RECEPTION AND LEGACY

UPON PUBLICATION, "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" WAS HAILED AS A GROUNDBREAKING WORK FOR ITS HONEST PORTRAYAL OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE AND RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE. CRITICS PRAISED BALDWIN'S LYRICAL PROSE AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DEPTH. OVER TIME, THE NOVEL HAS BECOME A STAPLE IN AMERICAN LITERATURE, STUDIED FOR ITS:

- EXPLORATION OF RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS IDENTITY.
- ARTISTIC INNOVATION.
- INFLUENCE ON SUBSEQUENT WRITERS LIKE TONI MORRISON AND TA-NEHISI COATES.

THE NOVEL'S THEMES REMAIN RELEVANT TODAY, ADDRESSING ISSUES OF FAITH, RACE, AND PERSONAL AUTHENTICITY.

INTERPRETING THE TITLE AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE

THE TITLE "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" REFERENCES A TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL SONG THAT EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF SHARING GOOD NEWS AND FAITH. SYMBOLICALLY:

- THE MOUNTAIN REPRESENTS A PLACE OF REVELATION AND SPIRITUAL ELEVATION.
- TELLING ON THE MOUNTAIN SIGNIFIES BEARING WITNESS TO TRUTH AND HISTORY.
- THE TITLE UNDERSCORES THE ACT OF STORYTELLING AS A MEANS OF SURVIVAL AND RESISTANCE.

THIS MOTIF ENCAPSULATES BALDWIN'S EMPHASIS ON VOICE, MEMORY, AND COMMUNITY.

CONCLUSION: WHY "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" MATTERS

"GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" REMAINS A VITAL WORK THAT CAPTURES THE COMPLEXITIES OF IDENTITY, FAITH, AND FAMILY WITHIN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. BALDWIN'S MASTERFUL STORYTELLING INVITES READERS TO REFLECT ON THE PERSONAL AND SOCIETAL STRUGGLES THAT SHAPE INDIVIDUAL LIVES. ITS RICH SYMBOLISM, VIVID CHARACTERS, AND THEMATIC DEPTH MAKE IT A TIMELESS PIECE OF AMERICAN LITERATURE.

WHETHER APPROACHED AS A COMING-OF-AGE STORY, A CRITIQUE OF RELIGIOUS HYPOCRISY, OR A COMMENTARY ON RACIAL INJUSTICE, BALDWIN'S NOVEL CONTINUES TO RESONATE. IT CHALLENGES US TO CONFRONT OUR HISTORIES, LISTEN TO SILENCED VOICES, AND SEEK TRUTH AMID THE TUMULT OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE.

FURTHER READING AND RESOURCES:

- BALDWIN, JAMES. *GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN*. (1953)
- CRITICAL ESSAYS EXPLORING BALDWIN'S INFLUENCE ON AMERICAN LITERATURE.
- ANALYSES OF RELIGIOUS SYMBOLISM IN BALDWIN'S WORKS.
- DISCUSSIONS ON RACE, FAITH, AND IDENTITY IN 20TH-CENTURY AMERICA.

THIS COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE HOPES TO DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN", ENCOURAGING FURTHER EXPLORATION OF BALDWIN'S PROFOUND INSIGHTS INTO THE HUMAN CONDITION.

[Go Tell It On The Mountain](#)

go tell it on the mountain: Go Tell It on the Mountain James Baldwin, 2013-09-12 One of the most brilliant and provocative American writers of the twentieth century chronicles a fourteen-year-old boy's spiritual, sexual, and moral struggle of self-invention in this "truly extraordinary" novel (Chicago Sun-Times). Baldwin's classic novel opened new possibilities in the American language and in the way Americans understand themselves. With lyrical precision, psychological directness, resonating symbolic power, and a rage that is at once unrelenting and compassionate, Baldwin tells the story of the stepson of the minister of a storefront Pentecostal church in Harlem one Saturday in March of 1935. Originally published in 1953, Baldwin said of his first novel, *Mountain* is the book I had to write if I was ever going to write anything else.

go tell it on the mountain: *James Baldwin's Go Tell it on the Mountain* Carol E. Henderson,

2006 The publication of James Baldwin's *Go Tell It on the Mountain* ushered in a new age of the urban telling of a tale twice told yet rarely expressed in such vivid portraits. *Go Tell It* unveils the struggle of man with his God and that of man with himself. Baldwin's intense scrutiny of the spiritual and communal customs that serve as moral centers of the black community directs attention to the striking incongruities of religious fundamentalism and oppression. This book examines these multiple impulses, challenging the widely held convention that politics and religion do not mix.

go tell it on the mountain: Go, Tell It on the Mountain Gretchen Wolff Pritchard, 2000-01-01 Here are three different Christmas pageants complete with music, staging directions, scenery and costume suggestions, plus pointers about how to organize your event. The pageants are for grades K-8, but one also calls for adults and teens. The first pageant is a traditional Nativity play with carols; the second is an adaptation in verse in the style of medieval mystery plays; and the third is a dramatized service of lessons and carols with Eucharist. Some churches adopt one pageant as an annual production; others try a different one each year. Pageant 1: "Good News of Great Joy" - This is the simplest pageant in concept and uses the Isaiah text of the prophecies with scenes of the Annunciation, the arrival at Bethlehem, the shepherds, and the Magi. It is intended to replace the sermon or Liturgy of the Word, or stand alone. Pageant 2 "A Child of Might" - This production is based on medieval "mystery plays" with static staging that is easier than in pageant 1. However it does use archaic English and requires memorization. It does not include the Magi, but introduces several characters not usually found in other pageants. Pageant 3 "People, Look East" - This version presents a dramatized service of Lessons and Carols for Advent and Christmas. It features nine scripture readings, each followed by a carol or hymn (with performance options). Children mime the readings. It is intended to be an entire Sunday liturgy (includes communion). *Go Tell It On the Mountain* is also available as a downloadable product on the Church Publishing website.

go tell it on the mountain: New Essays on Go Tell It on the Mountain Trudier Harris, 1996-03-29 A collection of critical essays on James Baldwin's *Go Tell It on the Mountain*.

go tell it on the mountain: Go Tell It on the Mountain (Deluxe Edition) James Baldwin, 2024-06-18 A deluxe edition of James Baldwin's haunting coming-of-age story, with a new introduction by Roxane Gay and special cover art designed by Baldwin's friend and contemporary Beauford Delaney Originally published in 1953, *Go Tell It on the Mountain* was James Baldwin's first major work, based in part on his own childhood in Harlem. With lyrical precision, psychological directness, resonating symbolic power, and a rage that is at once unrelenting and compassionate, Baldwin chronicles a fourteen-year-old boy's discovery of the terms of his identity as the stepson of the minister of a Pentecostal storefront church in Harlem. Baldwin's rendering of his protagonist's spiritual, sexual, and moral struggle toward self-invention opened new possibilities in the American language and in the way Americans understood themselves.

go tell it on the mountain: Go Tell It on the Mountain (SparkNotes Literature Guide) SparkNotes, 2014-08-12 *Go Tell It on the Mountain* (SparkNotes Literature Guide) by James Baldwin Making the reading experience fun! Created by Harvard students for students everywhere, SparkNotes is a new breed of study guide: smarter, better, faster. Geared to what today's students need to know, SparkNotes provides: chapter-by-chapter analysis explanations of key themes, motifs, and symbols a review quiz and essay topics Lively and accessible, these guides are perfect for late-night studying and writing papers.

go tell it on the mountain: A Study Guide for James Baldwin's "Go Tell It on the Mountain" Gale, Cengage Learning, 2016-06-29 A Study Guide for James Baldwin's *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Novels for Students*. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Novels for Students* for all of your research needs.

go tell it on the mountain: Go Tell It on the Mountain by James Baldwin (Book Analysis) Bright Summaries, 2019-04-04 Unlock the more straightforward side of *Go Tell It on the Mountain* with this concise and insightful summary and analysis! This engaging summary presents an analysis

of *Go Tell It on the Mountain* by James Baldwin, a lyrical novel about familial and racial tensions in 20th-century America. It centres on 14-year-old John Grimes and the older members of his family, most of whom have moved North to escape the more violent forms of racism they faced in the South. Over the course of the novel, John is confronted by his own burgeoning sexuality, his wavering religious convictions and his tense relationship with the man he believes to be his father. James Baldwin was one of the most influential African-American writers of the 20th century. His best-known works include his novels *Go Tell It on the Mountain* and *Giovanni's Room*, and he also penned a wide range of essays on social rights issues. Find out everything you need to know about *Go Tell It on the Mountain* in a fraction of the time! This in-depth and informative reading guide brings you: • A complete plot summary • Character studies • Key themes and symbols • Questions for further reflection Why choose BrightSummaries.com? Available in print and digital format, our publications are designed to accompany you on your reading journey. The clear and concise style makes for easy understanding, providing the perfect opportunity to improve your literary knowledge in no time. See the very best of literature in a whole new light with BrightSummaries.com!

go tell it on the mountain: James Baldwin's "Go Tell It on the Mountain" - a religious approach
 Martin Arndt, 2004-10-06 Seminar paper from the year 2001 in the subject Theology - Miscellaneous, grade: good, University of Leipzig, language: English, abstract: James Arthur Baldwin was born to Emma Berdis Jones and an unknown father on August 2, 1924, in New York City. The fact that he did not know about the identity of his biological father haunted him all his life. Who was to become Baldwin's stepfather was a laborer and Pentecostal preacher who came - as part of the Great Migration - to New York in 1919 "seeking better social conditions and economic opportunities." (Kenan 1994: 26) After he married her, he began to preach in storefront churches and made a living of a job he had in a bottle factory on Long Island, and although he "worked steadily, until encroaching age and illness prohibited it", were his wages seldom high enough to feed his big family², especially during the Great Depression. (Kenan: 27) As described in "Notes of a Native Son" this situation had contributed to his father's "intolerable bitterness of spirit." (Kenan: 88) It was "unrelieved bitterness and anger" that "drove [his father] away permanently in 1932." (Kenan: 27) James was very much influenced and shaped by his stepfather, and the problems that derived from his relationship to him became in my eyes a powerful motor for his poetry writings and determined his future decisions. To his father the young boy's intelligence and his interest in books was but a source of danger, for "the Bible was the only book worth reading." (Kenan: 29) If it wasn't for Orilla "Bill" Miller, a white woman from the Midwest who stepped up against his father's objections, and for Gertrude Ayer, a black principal who encouraged the young boy to write stories, plays and poems, James would have been deprived of a valuable education, because in the Baldwin household "education was suspect as a tool of the white devils not particularly useful to black men in a racist society that placed so many checks on their ambition." (Kenan: 31) James Baldwin was brought up "in a household atmosphere of strict, even suffocating, religiosity" (Kenan: 32) and his father lived "like a prophet, in such unimaginably close communion with the Lord, that his long silence which were punctuated by moans and hallelujahs and snatches of old songs while he sat at the living room window never seemed strange to us." (Baldwin 1984: 89)

go tell it on the mountain: Go, Tell It on the Mountain Victor Labenske, The six duet arrangements in this collection tell the story of Jesus' advent. Victor Labenske's colorful harmonic language enhances these carols, which are written in a variety of styles from jazz and calypso to innovative classical settings. Titles: * Angels We Have Heard on High * Go, Tell It on the Mountain * Hark! The Herald Angels Sing * Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming * O Little Town of Bethlehem * The Holly and The Ivy

go tell it on the mountain: Choral Music by African American Composers, 1996 Lists and describes both published and unpublished choral works by some 100 Afro-American composers and arrangers, encompassing works representing all styles from four-part settings to avant-garde pieces. The bulk of the book is an annotated list of compositions in tabular form, organized alphabetically by composer's name, listing publication dates and number of pages, vocal ranges, type of

accompaniment, publishers, and catalog number. Includes a listing of collections, biographical sketches, a discography, and addresses of publishers and composers. Useful for conductors and researchers. Annotation copyright by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

go tell it on the mountain: *Singer's Library of Song* Patrick M. Liebergen, 2005-05 Includes optional instrumental accompaniments and international phonetic alphabet pronunciation guide.

go tell it on the mountain: Amazing Grace Kenneth W. Osbeck, 2002-05-01 This revised best-seller is an inspiring daily devotional based on 366 great hymns of the faith. It contains a portion of each hymn along with Scripture readings, meditations, and practical applications.

go tell it on the mountain: Ukulele Christsmas Songbook Joan Capafons, 2023-03-02 A great resource for expanding English vocabulary and enjoying playing the soprano ukulele. Children's traditional folk songs mainly from the United States of America, songs with racist roots such as Oh Susanna and Amazing Grace have been removed, as well as songs inappropriate for children. Sing and extend English vocabulary with your students while playing the ukulele. Graphic chords, melody sheet music and TAB's. Also full lyrics. Fum, Fum, Fum (December 25th) A Child is Born in Bethlehem All Through the Night Angels from the Realms of Glory Angels We Have Heard on High Auld Lang Syne Away in a Manger Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella Canon in D Children, Go Where I Send Thee Coventry Carol Deck the Halls Ding Dong Merrily on High Down in Yon Forest Go Tell It on the Mountain God Rest You Merry Gentlemen Good King Wenceslas Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Here We Come a-Caroling I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day I Saw Three Ships In the Bleak Midwinter It Came Upon the Midnight Clear Jingle Bells Jolly Old St. Nicholas Joy to the World Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming Oh Christmas Tree O Come, All Ye Faithful O Come, O Come Emanuel O Holy Night O Little Town of Bethlehem Once in Royal David's City Pat-a-Pan Silent Night Still, Still, Still Sussex Carol The First Noel The Holly and the Ivy The Huron Carol There's a Song in the Air Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day Toyland The Twelve Days of Christmas Twinkle, Twinkle Christmas Star Up On the Housetop Watchman Tell Us of the Night We Three Kings We Wish You a Merry Christmas What Child is This While Shepherds Watch the Flocks by Night

go tell it on the mountain: Recorder & Guitar Christmas songbook for children JOAN CAPAFONS, 25 CAROLS

go tell it on the mountain: The Song Index of the Enoch Pratt Free Library Ellen Luchinsky, 2020-12-23 The Song Index features over 150,000 citations that lead users to over 2,100 song books spanning more than a century, from the 1880s to the 1990s. The songs cited represent a multitude of musical practices, cultures, and traditions, ranging from ethnic to regional, from foreign to American, representing every type of song: popular, folk, children's, political, comic, advertising, protest, patriotic, military, and classical, as well as hymns, spirituals, ballads, arias, choral symphonies, and other larger works. This comprehensive volume also includes a bibliography of the books indexed; an index of sources from which the songs originated; and an alphabetical composer index.

go tell it on the mountain: Reviving the Children of Nimrod A. Pinn, 2019-06-12 As Anthony Pinn argues in his latest collection, humanism comes in many colors. When more attention is given to issues of race as connected to other forms of oppression, it is easier to see the manner in which humanism has lived and functioned within African American communities. Using the biblical figure Nimrod as symbol, African American Humanist Principles demonstrates African American humanists' intellectual and praxis-related grounding in a history of rebellion against over-determined and oppressive limitations on human doing and being. Pinn maintains that it is this quest for a fuller sense of being - for greater existential and ontological worth - that informs the basic principles of African American humanism. African American Humanist Principles is one of the only books to present the inner workings of humanist principles as the foundation for humanism from the African American perspective - its form and content, nature and meaning.

go tell it on the mountain: Go Tell it on the Mountain James Baldwin, 1953 Baldwin's first novel tells of the spiritual awakening of 14-year-old John Grimes during a Saturday night service in a Harlem church, while his parents, praying beside him, struggle with their knowledge of past sins.

go tell it on the mountain: The Collected Works of Langston Hughes Langston Hughes, Dolan Hubbard, 2001 The sixteen volumes are published with the goal that Hughes pursued throughout his lifetime: making his books available to the people. Each volume will include a biographical and literary chronology by Arnold Rampersad, as well as an introduction by a Hughes scholar. Volume introductions will provide contextual and historical information on the particular work.

go tell it on the mountain: FO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN JAMES BALDWIN, 1953

Related to go tell it on the mountain

Go Tell it On the Mountain with lyrics | Christmas Gospel Go Tell it On the Mountain with lyrics a Christmas gospel Song & Carol. Feel the Christmas spirit - a perfect song to sing at Christmas or anytime - great fo

Go Tell It on the Mountain (song) - Wikipedia "Go Tell It on the Mountain" is an African-American spiritual song and Christmas carol which was most likely derived from the oral tradition, but was first printed in an early-1900s compilation of

Go Tell It on the Mountain lyrics | Christmas Carols Go Tell It on the Mountain is an African-American spiritual song that celebrates the birth of Jesus. Go Tell It on the Mountain has been recorded by Mahalia Jackson, Dolly Parton and Simon &

The Story Behind: Go, Tell It On the Mountain - "Go, Tell It On the Mountain" is more than just a hymn; it's a historical narrative, a message of liberation, and a testament to the enduring human spirit. Its journey from the

Natalie Grant Performs 'Go Tell It On The Mountain' Following Five-time GMA Dove Awards Female Vocalist of the Year, Natalie Grant, stopped by the Capitol Christian Music Group offices in Nashville to celebrate her new label home with

Go tell it on the Mountain [Complete Hymn with Lyrics] The hymn entitled 'Go tell it on the Mountain' is one of the popular Catholic Christmas hymns which is used in Christian communities during worship within the Christmas

Go, Tell It on the Mountain - The "go, tell," which initially applied to the singers caroling on the university campus, is a signal for us to leave the comfortable confines of Christian worship and "go, tell" the message of Christ's

Go Tell It On The Mountain Song Lyrics | Divine Hymns Go Tell It On The Mountain, Over The Hills And Everywhere; Go, Tell It On The Mountain That Jesus Christ Is Born. He Still Comes To People, His Life Moves Through The Lands; He Uses

Go Tell it On the Mountain with lyrics | Christmas Gospel Go Tell it On the Mountain with lyrics a Christmas gospel Song & Carol. Feel the Christmas spirit - a perfect song to sing at Christmas or anytime - great fo

Go Tell It on the Mountain (song) - Wikipedia "Go Tell It on the Mountain" is an African-American spiritual song and Christmas carol which was most likely derived from the oral tradition, but was first printed in an early-1900s compilation of

Go Tell It on the Mountain lyrics | Christmas Carols Go Tell It on the Mountain is an African-American spiritual song that celebrates the birth of Jesus. Go Tell It on the Mountain has been recorded by Mahalia Jackson, Dolly Parton and Simon &

The Story Behind: Go, Tell It On the Mountain - "Go, Tell It On the Mountain" is more than just a hymn; it's a historical narrative, a message of liberation, and a testament to the enduring human spirit. Its journey from the

Natalie Grant Performs 'Go Tell It On The Mountain' Following Five-time GMA Dove Awards Female Vocalist of the Year, Natalie Grant, stopped by the Capitol Christian Music Group offices in Nashville to celebrate her new label home with

Go tell it on the Mountain [Complete Hymn with Lyrics] The hymn entitled 'Go tell it on the Mountain' is one of the popular Catholic Christmas hymns which is used in Christian communities during worship within the Christmas

Go, Tell It on the Mountain - The "go, tell," which initially applied to the singers caroling on the

university campus, is a signal for us to leave the comfortable confines of Christian worship and "go, tell" the message of Christ's

Go Tell It On The Mountain Song Lyrics | Divine Hymns Go Tell It On The Mountain, Over The Hills And Everywhere; Go, Tell It On The Mountain That Jesus Christ Is Born. He Still Comes To People, His Life Moves Through The Lands; He Uses

Go Tell it On the Mountain with lyrics | Christmas Gospel Go Tell it On the Mountain with lyrics a Christmas gospel Song & Carol. Feel the Christmas spirit - a perfect song to sing at Christmas or anytime - great fo

Go Tell It on the Mountain (song) - Wikipedia " Go Tell It on the Mountain " is an African-American spiritual song and Christmas carol which was most likely derived from the oral tradition, but was first printed in an early-1900s compilation of

Go Tell It on the Mountain lyrics | Christmas Carols Go Tell It on the Mountain is an African-American spiritual song that celebrates the birth of Jesus. Go Tell It on the Mountain has been recorded by Mahalia Jackson, Dolly Parton and Simon &

The Story Behind: Go, Tell It On the Mountain - "Go, Tell It On the Mountain" is more than just a hymn; it's a historical narrative, a message of liberation, and a testament to the enduring human spirit. Its journey from the

Natalie Grant Performs 'Go Tell It On The Mountain' Following Five-time GMA Dove Awards Female Vocalist of the Year, Natalie Grant, stopped by the Capitol Christian Music Group offices in Nashville to celebrate her new label home with

Go tell it on the Mountain [Complete Hymn with Lyrics] The hymn entitled ' Go tell it on the Mountain ' is one of the popular Catholic Christmas hymns which is used in Christian communities during worship within the Christmas

Go, Tell It on the Mountain - The "go, tell," which initially applied to the singers caroling on the university campus, is a signal for us to leave the comfortable confines of Christian worship and "go, tell" the message of Christ's

Go Tell It On The Mountain Song Lyrics | Divine Hymns Go Tell It On The Mountain, Over The Hills And Everywhere; Go, Tell It On The Mountain That Jesus Christ Is Born. He Still Comes To People, His Life Moves Through The Lands; He Uses

Go Tell it On the Mountain with lyrics | Christmas Gospel Go Tell it On the Mountain with lyrics a Christmas gospel Song & Carol. Feel the Christmas spirit - a perfect song to sing at Christmas or anytime - great fo

Go Tell It on the Mountain (song) - Wikipedia " Go Tell It on the Mountain " is an African-American spiritual song and Christmas carol which was most likely derived from the oral tradition, but was first printed in an early-1900s compilation of

Go Tell It on the Mountain lyrics | Christmas Carols Go Tell It on the Mountain is an African-American spiritual song that celebrates the birth of Jesus. Go Tell It on the Mountain has been recorded by Mahalia Jackson, Dolly Parton and Simon &

The Story Behind: Go, Tell It On the Mountain - "Go, Tell It On the Mountain" is more than just a hymn; it's a historical narrative, a message of liberation, and a testament to the enduring human spirit. Its journey from the

Natalie Grant Performs 'Go Tell It On The Mountain' Following Five-time GMA Dove Awards Female Vocalist of the Year, Natalie Grant, stopped by the Capitol Christian Music Group offices in Nashville to celebrate her new label home with

Go tell it on the Mountain [Complete Hymn with Lyrics] The hymn entitled ' Go tell it on the Mountain ' is one of the popular Catholic Christmas hymns which is used in Christian communities during worship within the Christmas

Go, Tell It on the Mountain - The "go, tell," which initially applied to the singers caroling on the university campus, is a signal for us to leave the comfortable confines of Christian worship and "go, tell" the message of Christ's

Go Tell It On The Mountain Song Lyrics | Divine Hymns Go Tell It On The Mountain, Over The

Hills And Everywhere; Go, Tell It On The Mountain That Jesus Christ Is Born. He Still Comes To People, His Life Moves Through The Lands; He Uses

Go Tell it On the Mountain with lyrics | Christmas Gospel Go Tell it On the Mountain with lyrics a Christmas gospel Song & Carol. Feel the Christmas spirit - a perfect song to sing at Christmas or anytime - great fo

Go Tell It on the Mountain (song) - Wikipedia " Go Tell It on the Mountain " is an African-American spiritual song and Christmas carol which was most likely derived from the oral tradition, but was first printed in an early-1900s compilation of

Go Tell It on the Mountain lyrics | Christmas Carols Go Tell It on the Mountain is an African-American spiritual song that celebrates the birth of Jesus. Go Tell It on the Mountain has been recorded by Mahalia Jackson, Dolly Parton and Simon &

The Story Behind: Go, Tell It On the Mountain - "Go, Tell It On the Mountain" is more than just a hymn; it's a historical narrative, a message of liberation, and a testament to the enduring human spirit. Its journey from the

Natalie Grant Performs 'Go Tell It On The Mountain' Following Five-time GMA Dove Awards Female Vocalist of the Year, Natalie Grant, stopped by the Capitol Christian Music Group offices in Nashville to celebrate her new label home with

Go tell it on the Mountain [Complete Hymn with Lyrics] The hymn entitled ' Go tell it on the Mountain ' is one of the popular Catholic Christmas hymns which is used in Christian communities during worship within the Christmas

Go, Tell It on the Mountain - The "go, tell," which initially applied to the singers caroling on the university campus, is a signal for us to leave the comfortable confines of Christian worship and "go, tell" the message of Christ's

Go Tell It On The Mountain Song Lyrics | Divine Hymns Go Tell It On The Mountain, Over The Hills And Everywhere; Go, Tell It On The Mountain That Jesus Christ Is Born. He Still Comes To People, His Life Moves Through The Lands; He Uses

Related to go tell it on the mountain

Massive James Baldwin biography digs deep into the romances that shaped his writing (Yahoo1mon) "Baldwin: A Love Story" surpasses previous biographies of the author known for works including "Go Tell It on the Mountain." (Anthony Barboza / Getty Images) In Nicholas Boggs' lively and vigorously

Massive James Baldwin biography digs deep into the romances that shaped his writing (Yahoo1mon) "Baldwin: A Love Story" surpasses previous biographies of the author known for works including "Go Tell It on the Mountain." (Anthony Barboza / Getty Images) In Nicholas Boggs' lively and vigorously

Related Articles

- [season of the migration to the north](#)
- [enya best of enya](#)
- [toy soldiers sean astin](#)

[Back to Home](#)