ADDENDA TO A RICHARD WRIGHT BIBLIOGRAPHY

by

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The following items, 368 in number, do not appear among the 13,117 annotated items included in A Richard Wright Bibliography, compiled by me with the help of Joseph Benson, Michel Fabre, and Craig Werner. Only a few of the newly recorded items are substantial critical essays (1945.902a, 1973.219a, 1978.212a, 1980.208a, and 1982.149a), but others express opinions on Wright by such distinguished critics and writers as V. F. Calverton (1938.169a), Kenneth Burke (1941.671a), Gertrude Stein (1941.703a), Sterling Brown (1945.808a), Ann Petry (1950.199a), James Baldwin (1961.270b), Ezekiel Mphahlele (1967.77a and 1976.30a), C. L. R. James (1972.104a), John A. Williams (1976.203a), and W. E. B. Du Bois (1978.81a). Of even greater interest are items in which Wright speaks directly: 1938.245a and 274a (listed in Richard Wright: A Primary Bibliography by Charles T. Davis and Michel Fabre), 1944.42a, and 1949.153b.

The arrangement of entries here is the same as that of A Richard Wright Bibliography: chronological by year and alphabetical by author within each year. Numeration also follows the parent work. Thus the first item of the list of addenda, 1938.169a, comes after item number 169 in the year 1938 on page 16 of A Richard Wright Bibliography.

1938


1939

0. Agnew, Janet Margaret. A Southern Bibliography: Fiction 1929-1938. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University, p. 34. Contains an annotated entry for UTC.

1940


1941


In his "Foreword" Burke states that he would have liked "to weave in references to Richard Wright's disturbingly impressive novel, Native Son, especially in relation to varieties of power and their interrelationships."


703a. Diana. "In Passing." The Chicago Defender (30 August), p. 14. Commenting on Gertrude Stein's interest in blacks, this column quotes her on NS: "It is is is is is."


1942

326a. Tracy, Henry C. "Novels of Compassion." Common Ground, 2 (Summer), 117-118.
Contains a notice of Nelson Algren's Never Come Morning quoting from W's introduction, "the best appraisal" of the novel.

1943

Quotes from Max's speech to the court in NS.

Comments on W's "simple yet powerful and poetic style" (p. 2788) in 12 Million Black Voices and explains W's preparation for the book and Edwin Rosskam's method in selecting the photographs.

1944

Note mentioning W briefly.

27a. Anon. "In Brief --." Common Sense, 13 (March), 114.
Contains a review of Edwin R. Embree's 13 Against the Odds mentioning W briefly.


Rendezvous with America, and Horace Cayton and St. Clair Drake's Black Metropolis.

Notice mentioning W briefly.

Review mentioning W briefly.

Review of Edwin R. Embree's 13 Against the Odds mentioning briefly W and NS.

Review of Edwin R. Embree's 13 Against the Odds with a paragraph on W praising his courageous commitment to writing.

Review mentioning W briefly.

Review mentioning W briefly.

Mentions W briefly.

Review mentioning W briefly as the "author of brilliant and bitter writings" (p. 598).


1945


Praises briefly W's "smashing stories," which show "power, understanding, and protest" (p. 605).


902a. Ford, Nick Aaron. "Authors and Books: The Dilemma of the Negro Author." The Southwestern Journal, 1 (Winter), 200-205. Responding to Harry A. Overstreet in the Saturday Review of Literature, Ford discusses NS as an example of the dilemma of the author who must meet both white and black expectations in characterization. "The Negro reader wishes to see his likeness to other Americans portrayed in fiction; the white reader wishes to see his (the Negro's) unlikeness emphasized" (p. 202). W has great talent, but NS is not wholly successful.


1081a. Qualls, Youra. "Authors and Books." The Southwestern Journal, 1 (Spring), 269-275. Favorable review of Dusk of Dawn and BB. The former is more intellectual; the latter, more emotional. BB "is all feeling, unrelieved by any flights into the rare atmosphere of the mind, where ideas are neither black nor white" (p. 272).
1946

   Mentions briefly BB, quotes from "The Ethics of Living Jim Crow," and refers to NS.

   Includes TMBV in the bibliography.

   Recommends NS and BB.

   Lists TMBV.

   Contains a review of Black Metropolis quoting from W's "fine and powerful Introduction" (p. 108).

1947


1948

   Mentions briefly W (p. 166) and NS (pp. 169, 170).

   Mentions briefly BB.
   Reprinted: 1949.127a

   Condensation of 1944.127.

   Mentions NS and W's affiliation with the Writers' Project.

1949

   Reprint of 1941.686a.

   Mentions W briefly.

127a. Mathews, Basil. Booker T. Wash-
1950


Mentions W briefly.


Mentions briefly BB.


Comments briefly on purpose, characterization, and dialogue in NS.

1951


Includes comments on "Between the World and Me" (p. 299).

Reprinted: 1991

1952


Mentions BB and NS.


Mentions briefly W and the League of American Writers.
Notes that W moved from Chicago to New York. Includes a photograph of W (p. 27).

1953

Reprint of 1951.170.

States that "Richard Wright (1909 [sic]-- ) is a contemporary Negro novelist."

1954

Mentions W briefly.

Lists twenty-four items.

1955

Comments on W's experience with Communism.

1956

Chronicles the publication of UTC, NS, and BB.


Reprint of 1941.686a.

Uses incidents and quotations from BB to illustrate accommodation and W's rejection of it.

1957

Mentions W briefly (p. 27).

Quotes from BB to illustrate black hostility to whites (pp. 209-210).

Mentions W briefly.

1958

Reprint of 1950.120.

1959


104a. King, Martin Luther. "My Trip to the Land of Gandhi." Ebony, 14 (July), 84-86, 88-90, 92. King notes that on his way to India early in February 1959 he stopped in Paris to visit W, "who brought us up to date on European attitudes on the Negro question and gave us a taste of the best French cooking" (p. 84). Reprinted: 1992


1960


1961


Baldwin comments favorably on "Man of All Work."
Reprinted: 1989

1962

Mentions briefly UTC and NS.

Mentions briefly W as a Spingarn Medal winner and quotes from TMBV.

Mentions W briefly.

1963

Mentions W briefly (p.12).

Mentions briefly UTC and BB.

Mentions the author's doctoral thesis on W.

1965

Mentions briefly NS.

Mentions W's opposition to Senghor at the First Congress of Negro Artists and Writers in Paris.

Mentions W briefly.

States that "Richard Wright (1909 [sic]- ) and James Baldwin (1924- ) were major Negro writers of mid-century."

MacInnes mentions W briefly.
Reprinted: 1989

Comments briefly on "Man of All Work."
Reprinted: 1990

Contains unfavorable comments on NS.
1966


   Lists with annotations BB, NS, and EM.


   Reprint of 1956.130a.


   Reprint of 1954.97a.


   Mentions briefly BB (p. 364).


   Mentions briefly W, PS, and BB.


   Mentions W briefly (p. 337).


   Mentions briefly W, NS, and BB.

1967


   Reprint of 1941.686a plus an entry for LD.


   Review mentioning W briefly.


   Mentions briefly W and NS.


   Quotes from W's introduction to Black Metropolis (p. 237).


   Abstract of the article.


   Mentions UTC, NS, and BB, which give W first place among black writers.

67a. Katz, William Loren. Eyewitness:

Mentions W briefly, including his use of the phrase "black power."

Compares Stephen Rojack of Norman Mailer's An American Dream to Bigger Thomas (p. 521).
Reprinted: 1987

69e. [Levine, Stuart]. "MASA Bulletin." Midcontinent American Studies Journal, 8 (Fall), 2, 87.
Lists Clifford Hand's essay on W. See 1967.54.

Mentions NS and BB, as well as W and the League of American Writers.

Mentions briefly Bigger Thomas and W. Quotes from BB on black anti-semitism.

Comments on BP. W fails to establish understanding with Africans, unlike Hughes (p. 71).

Comments on BB as an autobiographical novel.

In a footnote to Carmichael's speech Osofsky quotes WML on the dozens (p. 630).

1968

Abstract of the article.

Mentions briefly NS.

Reprint of 1946.194.


Mentions briefly *BP*.

Mentions briefly *NS*.

Mentions *BB* and quotes from it a passage about hunger.

Mentions briefly *NS*.

Mentions *W* briefly.

Quotes *W* on Gertrude Stein's "Melanctha" and mentions *NS*, *BB*, *Q*, and *LD*.

1969

Abstract of the article.

The interviewers mention briefly Baldwin's criticism of *NS* (p. 202).

Quotes from *TMBV*.

Reprint of 1959.79a.

Mentions *W* briefly (p. 407).

Mentions briefly *BB* (p. 395).

Notes that Kenneth Kinnamon's article in this issue is a revised conference paper. See 1969.145.

Mentions *W* briefly.

Mentions *W* briefly (p. 280).

Review mentioning W briefly.


Lists WML (p. 461).


Mentions briefly W, BB, and NS. Includes a photograph of W (p. 395).


Brief mentions of W and of NS (p. 162).


Comments on her friendship with W (pp. 120-121).

Reprinted: 1990

1970


Compares Fanon's predicament to that of Bigger Thomas.


Mentions W briefly.


Mentions briefly the play NS (p. 138).


Examines stereotypes in UTC and NS.


Mentions briefly NS.


Mentions NS and quotes from "Blueprint for Negro Writing" (pp. 79-80).


Lists twenty-seven items on W.

158a. Harlan, Louis R. "Tell It Like It Was: Suggestions on Black His-

Revised reprint of 1969.120a.


Abstract of the article.


Kazin mentions W briefly (p. 89).


Contains a paragraph on W mentioning UTC, NS, and BB.


Mentions W briefly.


Reprint of 1965.102a.


Mentions W's relation of African street dancing to African American religious services (p. 49).


Mentions briefly W and NS.


Mentions W briefly (pp. 139, 144).


Quotes from TMBV (pp. 32-33) and refers briefly to BB (p. 34).


Mentions W briefly (p. 25).

Reprinted: 1983


Mentions W briefly and quotes from WML.

Reprinted: 1990


Quotes from BB on black antisem-
itism and quotes from EM on Jewish doctors in Chicago who learned to humble blacks.

1971
Mentions W briefly (p. 244).

Mentions briefly "The Man Who Lived Underground" (p. 71).

Contains a photograph of W at his typewriter with bookshelves behind him.

Mentions W briefly.

Reprint of 1967.67a.

Comments briefly on W and NS, BB, WML, and "Between the World and Me."

Discusses W's relation with the Communist Party, attributing his withdrawal to a desire for artistic independence, not to political disagreement. Rebukes Harry Haywood for insensitivity to W and for the censure leading to W's departure.

Mentions briefly W's use of the phrase "black power."

Comments on W's early experience in Memphis.

1972
Abstract of the article.

Comments briefly on NS and on W's opinion of Gertrude Stein's "Melanchta."

Comments on point of view in NS in relation to "the tension between the conventions of realism and the demands of didacticism" (p. 105).

Includes discussion of Howe's experience teaching NS. She speculates that W may be aware "that sexual identification [is] sharper even than racial" (p. 384).


Cites Asa Don Dickinson's list of best books including NS.

Mentions briefly W as the peer of Faulkner (p. 31).

Mentions that Hughes showed him a site in Paris "where Richard Wright used to verbally fight and win all battles with natural Blackness."

Mentions briefly NS and BB.

Mentions W briefly (p. 33).
Reprinted: 1990

Discusses his unsuccessful effort to help W secure a commission in the Army, royalties for NS and BB, and Lewis Milestone's desire to direct a film based on a story by W.

Mentions W briefly.

Mentions W in comparison to Walter White.

Mentions W briefly.

Notes that W had used the term "black power" before Stokely Carmichael.

Quotes and discusses Charles V. Charles (1942.215) on Bigger's psychology.

Review of Donald Gibson's Five Black Writers commenting on the essays on W included therein.

Review of James Baldwin's No Name
in the Street mentioning W and NS.


Review noting briefly Kingsley Widmer's essay on Q in the Cooke collection.

1973


Quotes from TMBV.

219a. McConnell, Frank D. "Black Words and Black Becoming." The Yale Review, 63 (December), 193-210. Locates NS in the antirealist tradition of black writing; Bigger is "the most powerfully imagined colonialized mind in black literature" (p. 200). McConnell explains the phenomenology of Bigger's name and the importance of his gaining speech and thus control at the end of the novel.


Notes that although no one wrote a comparable autobiography, "sensitive youths in black Carolina might have endured the same kinds of experiences Wright described in Black Boy."


311a. Wise, Gene. American Historical
Quotes from and comments on W's contribution to The God That Failed.

1974

Describes W's effort "to bridge the gap between black cultural nationalism and the Communist Party," especially in NS.

Contains a paragraph on W. Reprinted: 1988

Mentions W briefly.

Notes W's comment from BP: "I was black, they were black, but my color did not help me."

Review-essay including comments on Sam Bluefarb's treatment of NS (see 1972.33).

Quotes Constance Webb quoting W on black anti-Semitism.

Notice mentioning W briefly.

Disapproves offering a graduate seminar on W.

Review of Jerre Mangione's The Dream and the Deal mentioning W briefly.

1975

Mentions W briefly in the biographical sketch of Baldwin.

Mentions briefly NS.

Quotes from "Blueprint for Negro Writing" (p. 140).

111a. Jones, Howard. "Where I'm

Review mentioning W briefly.


Quotes from "Blueprint for Negro Writing" (pp. 34-35).


Mentions briefly W as an expatriate (p. 23).


Mixed review taking issue with Rosenblatt's interpretation of W.


Lists BB, EM, and NS.


Mentions W briefly (p. 69).


Mentions W briefly.


Contains a paragraph on W mentioning NS, BR, Q, LD, LT, BP, and WML.


Mentions W briefly (p. 106). Reprinted: 1983


Mentions W briefly (p. 228). Reprinted: 1989

1976


Mentions briefly the admiration of W by black South African writers and notes that the protagonist of Mphahlele's *The Wanderers* reads UTC.


Abstract of the article.


Mentions W briefly.


Mentions W briefly as a sponsor of *Présence Africaine*.

51a. Cox, Oliver C. *Race Relations:

Notes briefly W's interracial marriage.


Mentions W briefly (p. 124).


Abstract of the article.


Quotes from Ezekiel Mphahlele's Down Second Avenue mentioning W briefly (p. viii).


Mentions W briefly (p. 85).


Abstract of the article.


Reprint of 1968.189a.

168a. S. "Giles, James R. Richard Wright's Successful Failure: A New Look at Uncle Tom's Children."

American History and Life, 13A, 198.

Abstract of the article.


Review mentioning W briefly.


Contains three paragraphs on W's work focusing on UTC but mentioning BR, NS, and LD.


Williams discusses W's historical view and allegations of CIA involvement in his death. 1977


Mentions W briefly.

51a. Baker, Houston A., Jr. "'These Are the Songs If You Have the/Music': An Essay on Imamu Baraka." Minority Voices, 1 (Spring), 1-18.

Quotes W's phrase "a vocabulary of history" (p. 2).

Reprinted: 1988


Quotes a long sentence from NS to illustrate the effective use of a series of participial phrases.


Mentions NS briefly (p. 403).


In a letter dated 12 December 1954, Du Bois comments unfavorably on BP: "Some of his descriptions were splendid but his logic is lousy." In a footnote, Aptheker quotes from another letter dated 27 January 1955 in which Du Bois amplifies this judgment.


Abstract of the article.


Abstract of the article.


Mentions W and communism.


Mentions W briefly (p. 48).


Reprint of 1968.159.


Headnote to a reprinting of the story.


In a postscript to a letter devoted to African affairs, Padmore asks: "Did you read Richard Wright's book on G. C.? Very good!"


Criticizes Literary History of the United States for underestimating W. Praises NS and mentions UTC.


Places W's early work, especially NS, in the context of social ideology and W's differences from Himes, Ellison, and Baldwin. The Marxist social vision, fraternity with fellow-radicals, and his sense of his task of concretizing Party abstractions animated W's early fiction. Black experience as depicted in NS would confront ideology with psychological realities.

Reprinted: 1983


Notes that Simone de Beauvoir dedicated L'Amérique au jour le jour to Ellen and W.
   Mentions UTC, NS, and BB.

1979

   Mentions W briefly.

   Abstract of the article.

   Mentions Irving Howe's "Black Boys and Native Sons" (p. 34).
   Reprinted: 1987

   Abstract of the interview.

   Abstract of the article.


   Mentions W briefly.

   Mentions W's reaction to his first view of West Africa and quotes from BP.

   Mentions W briefly.

   Lists NS.

   Review mentioning briefly W and "Fire and Cloud."

   Mentions W briefly as an expatriate (p. 1020).

Abstract of the article.

Includes a sketch of W's career (pp. 66-67).

Includes comments on teaching NS.

Lists Chukwudi T. Maduka's dissertation (see 1976.120).

Lists discussion of Jean B. Hutson's association with W.

Compares the film Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song to NS.

Quotes W on Phillis Wheatley and Dunbar.

Abstract of the article.

Photograph of W with caption announcing his death in 1960.

Cites an episode from BB.

Mentions W and discusses briefly NS and BB.

Abstract of the article.

1980

Abstract of the article.

Abstract of the article.

Baldwin comments on "Man of All Work" (p. 332) and discusses his relation with W (pp. 336-338). He criticizes NS for its "Stalinist garbage" and praises LT ("It is
full of niggers! It is full of life! a beautiful book.

Reprinted: 1989

Includes consideration of novels by W and four others.


Abstract of the article.

Kamenju, Head of the Literature Department at the University of Dar es Salaam, states that W is read at his institution.

Mixed review noting W's decline during his expatriation. Reilly's collection offers "completeness and not taste."

Reprint of 1977.239a.

Mentions W briefly (p. 42).

Argues that W was working "toward a synthesis of marxism and black nationalist thought" (p. 366). Analyzes Q "as a critique of Christianity and marxism" (p. 361). "Blueprint for Negro Writing" is reprinted in this issue (pp. 403-412). Reprinted: 1983


Notes that Weill considered doing an operatic version of the play NS. Also compares briefly the novel NS and Alan Paton's Cry, the Beloved Country.

Includes an exercise and comments on a quoted passage from "Bright and Morning Star."

244b. Tuo, Ren. "Ming Liang de Chenxin." Contemporary Foreign
Literature, 1, p. 93.
Translator's prefatory note to a translation of "Bright and Morning Star" into Chinese.

Contains a page on Mrs. Thomas in NS (p. 91) and mentions W elsewhere.

Review mentioning W briefly.

All three discussants agree that W would have had some pleasant youthful experiences in the South (pp. 62, 83-84).


Comments on W and quotes from BB.
1981

Contains a paragraph on W (p. 308).

Describes A Richard Wright Bibliography and explains its genesis and development. Based on interviews with Keneth Kinnamon and Joseph Benson.

Contains a paragraph on W and a photograph (pp. 268, 271).

A note on the author mentions his essay on W.

Mentions W briefly.

Favorable review mentioning W briefly in relation to New Challenge.

Interview in which Lucas recalls reading W.

85a. Martin, Ronald E. American

Mentions NS and BB.


Mentions W briefly (p. 66).


Mentions W briefly.


Mentions briefly BB.


Mentions W briefly and analyzes Du Bois’s review of BB.


Reprint of 1974.142.


Mixed review complaining of lack of historical and cultural contexts.


Abstract of the article.


Mentions W briefly.


Review mentioning briefly W and Q.


Translator’s prefatory note to a translation of "The Man Who Was Almost a Man" into Chinese.

1982


Abstract of the article.


States in an endnote that NS "is one example of how the falsification of the Black experience for the purpose of political protest can result in characters that
reinforce racist stereotypes" (p. 187).

Favorable review of Gayle's biography, "a sympathetic reading of W's life and work." Praises the use of FBI documents in explaining pressures on W.

Comments on June Jordan's 1974 article on Hurston and W (pp. 273-274).

41a. Dietze, Rudolf F. "Robert G. O'Meally, The Craft of Ralph Ellison; Rolf Franzbecker unter Mitarbeit von Peter Bruck und Willi Real, Der moderne Roman des amerikanischen Negers; Richard Wright-Ralph Ellison-James Baldwin." Amerikastudien, 27, No. 4, 481-484.

Comments on places where W lived or visited during his American years. Includes a photograph of W and the house at 4831 South Vincennes Avenue in Chicago.


Mentions W's help to Ralph Ellison in New York.

Mentions briefly W and UTC (pp. 95, 99).

Mentions W briefly (p. 27).

Mentions W briefly.

A course syllabus including "Bright and Morning Star" as required reading.

Mentions reading W (p. 103).


Mentions W briefly.


Mentions briefly Bigger Thomas (p. 303).


Mentions briefly Bigger Thomas (p. 111).


Mentions W briefly.


Favorable review praising the work's treatment of W in relation to Thomas Wolfe.


Mentions W briefly (p. 63).


Mentions briefly "Bright and Morning Star" (p. 207).


Mentions the elevator operator in BB (p. 136).


Quotes from BB on Jewish racism and black antisemitism.


Mentions briefly "The Literature of the Negro in the United States" (p. 249).

Mentions W's Marxist influence on Ellison (p. 89).


Analyzes the symbolic inversion of values in UTC and NS. As W rejected white for black values, so must black critics defy white critical rejection of rebellion.