

APPENDICES

Synopsis

Queen, unlike other children of plantation, is born as a result of the love between Jass Jackson, the owner of the plantation, and Easter, one of the slaves in the Fork of Cypress. Despite this fact, life in the plantation is not easier for her. Although she is the Master's daughter, she has to live in the weaving house with her mother. Other children in the plantation call her by names because she is a slave but her color is white and they do not want to play with her. She only has her mother and her grandfather as a friend. All the time she is just guessing who her father is, that is her master, but she never knows the truth until Easter tells her on the day Jass goes to the war. When she is three years old, she has to move to the big house to take care of Mrs. Lizzy, Jass's legal wife, who is pregnant and later on Queen has to take care of the baby, William.

A few years later when William has already reached the age of thirteen, the war breaks between the North who opposes slavery and the South who supports it. Jass, feeling that he has to do something to protect his father's legacy and the family's wealth, decides to join the army and fights for the South. Before he goes, he tells Queen to take care of the family and says that they need her. After knowing the fact that Jass is her father, Queen feels that it is her duty to run the house for the Jacksons because they are her family too. However, the family seems to take everything for granted and never expresses any gratitude to Queen for everything that she does. Jass returns six months later and thanking Queen for everything she has done for his family. However, Jass

never lets his feeling of love show in front of Queen and admits her as his daughter even on the day when Easter dies. Later on Jass goes to war again and Queen, who has already has her freedom, still does the same duty all over again. The difference is this time it is much harder than the previous because the plantation has reduced the number of the slaves. Jass comes home again with wounded arm. Still nothing has changed. Jass never admits her as part of the family or even looks for her when she is lost in a forest after being chased by some white men. As a result, Queen leaves the family who never will admit her as part of them.

Queen is heading to the North to Decatur where she meets Alice, a prostitute, who gives her shelter. They soon become friends because both of them are mulatto and they are pretending to be whites. Queen enjoys her new life and meets a man named Digby, whom she falls in love with. However, Digby, knowing that Queen is a mulatto, rapes her and dumps her after Queen really believes that he loves her too. Alice, fearing that her secret as a mulatto will be known by her customers, kicks Queen out of her house. In her despair, Queen finds a church of the blacks and admits that she is black.

Jane, the pianist of the church, gives Queen shelter and food, and helps her to find a job at the house of sisters named Mandy and Gippy. Both of them are nice to Queen until one day Queen meets Davis and has his baby. The sisters are trying to punish Queen because of her sin, and that is why Queen tries to escape with Davis. Unfortunately, Davis does not come and leaves Queen alone. Therefore, Queen has to come back to the sisters's house and the sisters insist on taking care of Abner, Queen's baby, based on the reason that they are saving the baby's soul from the sinful mother. They even try to

separate Queen from her baby. As a result, Queen runs away from them and heading to the North.

On the journey to the north, Queen meets the Bensons family and hears the news about Davis; thus she decides to follow the track. Finally she meets Davis and shows him their son. Unfortunately, Davis is killed by the whites who dislike negro leaders with the help of the Bensons. Queen continues her journey and she meets Alec who feels sympathy to her and her baby, and he offers her a job at Mr. Cherry's house. Queen takes the job, but she never gets close to anyone and she never lets anyone touch Abner. She is always suspicious to people who are kind to her. However, later on Alec can win her heart and marries her. She has three children with Alec and she works hard together with him to fulfill their family's need. All of her children love her and respect her.

Everything is so fine until one day Abner wants to live away from Queen to become independent. This event worries Queen so much that she loses her sanity for temporary. However after knowing that she is pregnant again, Queen allows Abner to go. Simon, the youngest son, is able to go to high school, but Alec does not allow him to. After being persuaded by Queen, finally he gives up and sends Simon to high school. Simon fails at school because he takes too many part time jobs to be able to buy his own books. This news makes Queen lose her sanity again and Alec has to send her to the institution. He stays by her and encourages her to get well and live happy. This fact touches Queen's feeling and she begins to get well everyday. In addition, the news of Simon going back to school has encouraged her to get well. Finally she is allowed to go home, to the place where she is loved by her children and her husband.

Biography

Alex Murray Palmer Haley was born on August 11, 1921, to Simon and Bertha Haley in Ithaca, New York, where both of his parents were students. He grew up in Henning, Tennessee, in the middle of an extended family who often exchanges stories about their ancestors. Among of those tales is about Kunta Kinte, who had been brought over from Africa as a slave. This tales inspired Haley to write Roots. Haley attended college only briefly and enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard in 1939. He began writing because of his boredom while he was at the sea, and then published his first article in a newspaper supplement. In 1941 he married Nannie Branch, with whom he had two children. However, later on in 1964 he married Juliette Collins after he had his divorce with his first wife. With his second wife, Haley had one daughter. The couple later divorced, and Haley eventually married for the third time.

After twenty years in the service, Haley retired from the Coast Guard in 1959, and wrote for magazines such as Reader's Digest and Playboy. In 1965, Haley reached best-seller status with his first book, The Autobiography of Malcom X. The book was sold for over five million copies. Two weeks after finishing Malcom X, Haley began his research on his anestry. He wrote Roots for twelve years and he conducted extensive research in many countries, working in libraries and archives. Over eight million copies of the book were sold and nearly two million people viewed at least part of the television mini-series based on it.

In the early 1970es Haley, together with his brothers founded the Kinte Foundation to collect and preserve the African-American genealogy records. In 1977 Haley won

many awards, including special citations from both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize committees through Roots. However, there were two published authors accused Haley of plagiarism, and finally he settled with one of them for \$ 500,00. In 1979 Haley helped to develop Roots: The Next Generation, a sequel to the original television mini-series and in 1993 a mini-series of Queen. Haley wrote the book Queen, which later on was finished by David Stevens based on Haley's dictation about his paternal great-grandmother. Haley died because of cardiac arrest on February 10, 1992 in Seattle, Washington and is buried on the grounds of the Alex Haley Museum in Henning, Tennessee.