



Golden carefully constructs the story of the focal family around the context of the DC in the changing decades from the Depression through the early 90's. Main characters reflect both their own particular personalities and the movements of society around them and Golden treats them all, including the ones who act badly and selfishly, with the same tolerance and care. Her novel creates a steady look into the character and structure of an African-American family rising from poverty to middle class that both celebrates and struggles

with its internal changes in a city that also embraces and rejects in equal measure.