<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Hansberry, Lorraine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Call Number</strong></td>
<td>JWJ MSS 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Published/Created Date</strong></td>
<td>1958-64, n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rights</strong></td>
<td>The Langston Hughes Papers are the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator. The materials are open for research. Boxes 639-667 and items in cold storage (including box 669): Restricted fragile material. Reference surrogates have been substituted in the main files. For further information consult the appropriate curator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Container information</strong></td>
<td>Box 74, folder 1426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Generated</strong></td>
<td>2022-08-12 18:49:00 UTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Terms of Use</strong></td>
<td><a href="https://guides.library.yale.edu/about/policies/access">https://guides.library.yale.edu/about/policies/access</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>View in DL</strong></td>
<td><a href="https://collections.library.yale.edu/catalog/16998772">https://collections.library.yale.edu/catalog/16998772</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th St.
New York 35, N.Y.
My dear Mr. Hughes,

I am the author of a three act dramatic play on Negro family life. I have tentatively chosen as a title for this work a line from one of your poems. The line is: "a raisin in the sun".*

I should be extremely gratified and complimented to receive your consent for the use of this line as a title.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Hansberry (Nemiroff)

*from: Montage of a Dream
Deferred; "Harlem";
p.71
April 5, 1958

Dear Mrs. Nemiroff;

I can't recall whether I answered your letter of February 8th requesting permission to use the line: "a raisin in the sun", as a title for your three-act play.

I am happy to give my permission for its use and send you all my good wishes for its success.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

Mrs. Lorraine Nemiroff
337 Bleecker Street
New York City 14
October 11, 1959

Dear Lorraine: I tried my best to get some information for you about that quote in NEGRO CARAVAN on the Irish play, but no luck. Wrote Sterling Brown, saw him in Washington, and again at Newport, and he said it concerned an old Irish play he had come across doing research at Harvard years ago. He thought he still had the play, and would see, but I guess he never found it. The other two editors, Lee and Davis, whom I asked about it, could be of no help, but said they'd try to prod Sterling into finding it. I reckon not! Anyhow, your play book is out now, so too late.

Rosey Pool, just from London, says she saw RAISIN twice, the opening, and again recently, and that its cut by about 20 minutes, now plays very well, and the public is liking it. All of which I'm sure you know.

I'm hoping soon to catch Ossie. Rose has invited me to come whenever I can make it. Been BUSY with my Guild play, TAMBOURINES, which they think might go into production in the Spring. Usual rewrite and re-re-re-writes! But by now I'm used to the theatre (a bit).

Cordial regards,

Sincerely,
May 10, 1960

Dear Lorraine:

Your inscribed copy of RAISIN IN THE SUN (and a page or so of any draft of anything) for Ghana have not as yet arrived, and the date of Saturday, May 21, has now been set for the presentation of the material to the Ambassador from Ghana, so if you could send it on, FINE! Or if more convenient to have my secretary call for it, phone At. 9-6559 after 3 P.M., and he'll come down and pick it up. Me, I'm off on the last lap of my lecture season—-Michigan State College, Wayne, etc., for a couple of weeks—-10 days rather until the 20th.

Cordial regards,

Sincerely,
Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York, N. Y.
Dear Langston:

Bob told me about your meeting Friday and I wanted you to know how deeply appreciative I am of your offer to help out at the trial.

MASTERS OF THE DEW is such a great novel and your translation so unutterably beautiful that I considered it from the first a privilege to be associated with it--and I am only sorry that the project had to be aborted as it has.

We will be in touch in May, as you suggested.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Lorraine Hansberry

March 11, 1963

Mr. Langston Hughes
20 East 127th Street
New York 35, N. Y.
August 22, 1964

Dear Lorraine;

As a part of its series of programs to be aired from London in the fall, the British Broadcasting Corporation wishes to set up for taping in New York a round-table discussion of an hour's duration between 3 Negro writers and myself as the moderator concerning the writer and the current racial situation in the U.S.A. and the world. I have been asked to ascertain if you would be willing to be one of the guest writers (for a fee, of course) and if you would be in New York to spend an hour at BBC after Labor Day, any afternoon between September 5th to 18th, as might be mutually agreeable to those participating. Perhaps, if you would be so kind, you might suggest three dates when you would be available—and I will try to match them with others and put the panel together.

This is the BBC series that will run for 13 weeks and includes three plays by Negro authors, two jazz sessions already taped by Nat Hentoff and some top groups, a poetry session already taped, a serious music session, etc., showing the positive aspects of Negro culture in America and various expressions of its contemporary talents. London hopes especially that you can participate.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

Same note sent to Ro at Home & Buffalo
August 22, 1964

Dear Lorraine;

As a part of its series of programs to be aired from London in the fall, the British Broadcasting Corporation wishes to set up for taping in New York a round-table discussion of an hour's duration between 3 Negro writers and myself as the moderator concerning the writer and the current racial situation in the U.S.A. and the world. I have been asked to ascertain if you would be willing to be one of the guest writers (for a fee, of course) and if you would be in New York to spend an hour at BBC after Labor Day, any afternoon between September 8th to 18th, as might be mutually agreeable to those participating. Perhaps, if you would be so kind, you might suggest three dates when you would be available—and I will try to match them with others and put the panel together.

This is the BBC series that will run for 13 weeks and includes three plays by Negro authors, two jazz sessions already taped by Nat Hentoff and some top groups, a poetry session already taped, a serious music session, etc., showing the positive aspects of Negro culture in America and various expressions of its contemporary talents. London hopes especially that you can participate.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

Same note sent to Po at Home & Buffalo.
August 22, 1964

Dear Lorraine;

As a part of its series of programs to be aired from London in the fall, the British Broadcasting Corporation wishes to set up for taping in New York a round-table discussion of an hour's duration between 3 Negro writers and myself as the moderator concerning the writer and the current racial situation in the U.S.A. and the world. I have been asked to ascertain if you would be willing to be one of the guest writers (for a fee, of course) and if you would be in New York to spend an hour at BBC after Labor Day, any afternoon between September 8th to 18th, as might be mutually agreeable to those participating. Perhaps, if you would be so kind, you might suggest three dates when you would be available--and I will try to match them with others and put the panel together.

This is the BBC series that will run for 13 weeks and includes three plays by Negro authors, two jazz sessions already taped by Nat Hentoff and some top groups, a poetry session already taped, a serious music session, etc., showing the positive aspects of Negro culture in America and various expressions of its contemporary talents. London hopes especially that you can participate.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
August 22, 1964

Dear Lorraine;

As a part of its series of programs to be aired from London in the fall, the British Broadcasting Corporation wishes to set up for taping in New York a round-table discussion of an hour's duration between 3 Negro writers and myself as the moderator concerning the writer and the current racial situation in the U.S.A. and the world. I have been asked to ascertain if you would be willing to be one of the guest writers (for a fee, of course) and if you would be in New York to spend an hour at BBC after Labor Day, any afternoon between September 8th to 18th, as might be mutually agreeable to those participating. Perhaps, if you would be so kind, you might suggest three dates when you would be available—-and I will try to match them with others and put the panel together.

This is the BBC series that will run for 13 weeks and includes three plays by Negro authors, two jazz sessions already taped by Nat Bentoff and some top groups, a poetry session already taped, a serious music session, etc., showing the positive aspects of Negro culture in America and various expressions of its contemporary talents. London hopes especially that you can participate.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes
September 1, 1964

Dear Lorraine:

Concerning the writer's round table about which I recently wrote you, the BBC has decided that if the discussion were held, the first week in November, right after the elections, might be more timely and stimulating.

Since I shall be in Europe for the next eight weeks, the New York office of BBC will get in touch with you about the possibility of your participation on the round table.

Sincerely,

Langston
Sept. 1, 1964

Dear Lorraine:

Concerning the writer’s round table about which I recently wrote you, the BBC has decided that if the discussion were held the first week in November, right after the elections, rather than now, it might be more timely and stimulating.

Since I shall be in Europe for the next eight weeks, the New York office of BBC will get in touch with you later about the dates and the possibility of your participation on the round table in November.

Sincerely,

Langston
Mrs. Lorraine Hansberry Nemiroff
112 Waverly Place
New York 11, N.Y.

June 15

Dear, Dear Langston—

Like a whole generation of people—yes, I have been my favorite living poet. You are swiftly becoming one of my favorite people. Your thoughts, poems, and letters to me about the play have really been marvelous. And now you sweet note. Why don't we get together more often? We would love to have you to dinner soon.
(not "green" — I will honor
your warning on that headlining!)
But drinks + steaks + conversation.
Did I even tell you what
a money thing it was that
you should have been the
last person to see R. Wright?
Something so dramatic about it
because of what the two of
you have been to Negro letters.
There are also so many things
I would like to ask about. The
"gangsta" generation of Negro writers
must learn to honor the mentors
among our writers. And argue too!

Warmest Regards, James.
Dear Langston,

I have just seen the current issue of Esquire Magazine in which, in an article on
James Baldwin, I am "guilty" (by a man I have, to my knowledge, never met) as
suggesting that I somehow or other partitioned an attack on you by Baldwin. If
deny being party to any such sentiment I continue to regard you not only,
to my mentor that the
prof Lawrence's one people
as if hone publicly pr
proudly acknowledged for
you.

Warm regards,

Sandra
Greetings of the Season
AND BEST WISHES FOR THE
New Year

Loraine Hanks Berry
Merry Christmas
and a very
Happy New Year

Hope the plan is going
crly! will be up to
see it during holidays.

[Handwritten note]

Send best affection!

[Handwritten note]
Greetings of the Season
AND BEST WISHES FOR THE
New Year

[Signature]
February 8, 1958

My dear Mr. Hughes,

I am the author of a three act dramatic play on Negro family life. I have tentatively chosen as a title for this work a line from one of your poems. The line is: "a raisin in the sun".*

I should be extremely gratified and complimented to receive your consent for the use of this line as a title.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Hansberry (Nemiroff)

*from: Montage of a Dream
Deferred; "Harlem";
p.71
June 15

Dear, Dean Sangston —

Like a whole generation of people — you have been my favorite living poet. You are swiftly becoming one of my favorite people. Your thoughtfulness across country in sending me clips about the play has really been marvelous. And now your sweet note. Why don’t we get together more often? We would love to have you to dinner soon.
(not "green" - I will honor your warning on that tradition!)

But drinks & steak & camaraderie.

Did I ever tell you what a money thing it was that you should have been the last person to see R. Wright?

Something so dramatic about it because of what the two of you have been to Negro letters. There are also so many things I would like to ask about. The "gangster" generation of Negro writers must learn to honor the mentors among our writers. And argue too!

Warmest Regards, [Signature]