

Toni Morrison



Toni Morrison, one of the most celebrated authors in the world, began her journey with literature at a young age. She actively read, was a part of her school's yearbook committee, and even was the secretary for the librarian at her local library. To hone her passion for literature, she attended Howard University, a historically black institution. While she was in college, she developed new experiences that she would later pull from when writing her novels, such as seeing segregation in the south.

After graduating from Howard and then receiving her Masters from Cornell, she returned to Howard University, but this time to teach. After a few years of teaching, she moved to New York City and worked at a publishing house. This experience allowed her to edit other author's novels, and later gave her the opportunity to publish herself. The first novel she published, *The Bluest Eye*, discusses the hierarchy of the lightness of one's skin even within the Black community. Later, Morrison published her novel *Beloved*, which won her the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. For all of her work, in 1993, Morrison was the first Black woman to win a Nobel Prize in Literature. Afterwards, in 2012, Morrison was given the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama.

Even though she has now passed, Morrison remains one of the most amazing authors to have ever lived. Her unique writing style allows her to convey these themes in a way that will leave an impact on the reader. Morrison's novels about the African American community and experience continue to leave an impact on those who read it.