
Lesson 1

A Raisin in the Sun

Introduction

Lesson 1 Directions

The title of the play *A Raisin in the Sun* comes from this Langston Hughes poem:

What happens to a dream deferred?
Does it dry up
Like a raisin in the sun?
Or fester like a sore--
And then run?
Does it stink like rotten meat?
Or crust and sugar over--
Like a syrupy sweet?
Maybe it just sags
Like a heavy load.
Or does it explode?

-- Langston Hughes

What is a “dream deferred”?

What do you think happens to dreams that are deferred?