

English 3 Level 3 (W220333)

The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother, James McBride

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James McBride grew up one of twelve siblings in the all-black housing projects of Red Hook, Brooklyn. His mother, however, was a white woman raised in an Orthodox Jewish household in the South. In his memoir, McBride recounts his mother's difficult history in her strictly religious home, while around her narrative, he paints a powerful self-portrait of growing up bi-racial in America in the 1960s.

This memoir makes some strong suggestions about the forces that form our identity. **While reading, please look for key experiences that contribute to James' and Ruth's sense of self and note some of them inside the front cover of your book.**

