



BOOK RESUME: FENCES

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Troy Maxson is a strong man, a hard man. He has had to be to survive. Troy Maxson has gone through life in an America where to be proud and black is to face pressures that could crush a man, body and soul. But the 1950s are yielding to the new spirit of liberation in the 1960s, a spirit that is changing the world Troy Maxson has learned to deal with the only way he can, a spirit that is making him a stranger, angry and afraid, in a world he never knew and to a wife and son he understands less and less. This is a modern classic, a book that deals with the impossibly difficult themes of race in America, set during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s.

Title: Fences

Author: August Wilson

Imprint: Plume

Publisher: Penguin
Publishing Group

On sale date: December 6,
2016

ISBN: 9780735216686

Format: Paperback

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"*Fences* leaves no doubt that Mr. Wilson is a major writer, combining a poet's ear for vernacular with a robust sense of humor, a sure sense for crackling dramatic incident, and a passionate commitment to a great subject." —*The New York Times*

"An eloquent play . . . a comedy-drama that is well-nigh flawless." —*New York Magazine*

"A moving story line and a hero almost Shakespearian in contour." —*The Wall Street Journal*

"A work of tremendous impact that summons up gratitude for the beauty of its language, the truth of its character, the power of its portrayals." —*Chicago Tribune*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Winner of the 1987 Pulitzer Prize for Drama

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Study Guide](#)
- [Discussion Questions](#)

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

- [Students, Librarians and Bookstore Owners Push Back on Book Bans \(2022\)](#)
- [Goddard school district reverses decision to pull 29 books out of circulation \(2021\)](#)
- [Kansas school district reverses decision to pull library books \(2021\)](#)

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*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.