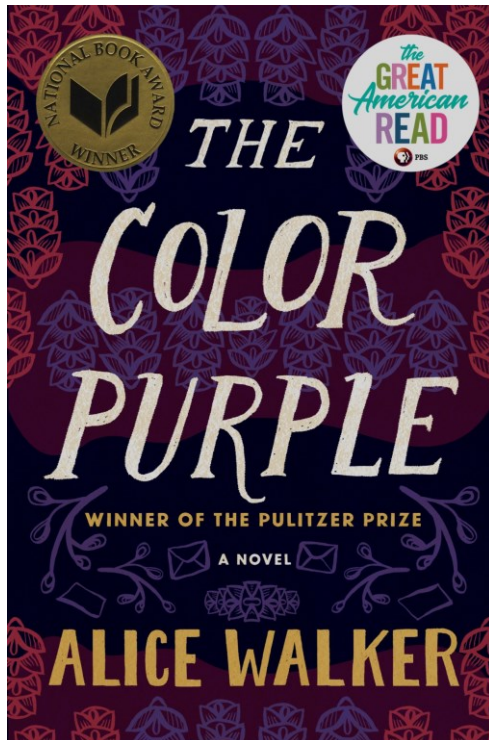


THE COLOR PURPLE



Adult

By Alice Walker

ISBN: 9781453232606



Book Summary:

In America's South in the early twentieth century, an abused black woman perseveres through faith.

Summary of Concerns:

This book contains explicit sexual activities; sexual nudity; child molestation and rape; violence including child abuse and domestic violence; racism; bigotry; profanity and derogatory terms; controversial religious, racial, and cultural commentary; alcohol and drug use; and alternate sexualities.

3 /5

Minor Restricted
BookLooks Review Rating

Page	Content
1	First he put his thing up gainst my hip and sort of wiggle it around. Then he grab hold my titties. Then he push his thing inside my pussy. When that hurt, I cry. He start to choke me, saying You better shut up and git used to it.
3	He took my other little baby, a boy this time. But I don't think he kilt it. I think he sold it to a man an his wife over Monticello. I got breasts full of milk running down myself.
4	He come home with a girl from round Gray. She be my age but they married. He be on her all the time.
5	A girl at church say you git big if you bleed every month. I don't bleed no more.
22	Harpo ast his daddy why he beat me. Mr. _____ say, Cause she my wife. Plus, she stubborn. All women good for—he don't finish. ...He beat me like he beat the children. Cept he don't never hardly beat them. He say, Celie, git the belt. The children be outside the room peeking through the cracks. It all I can do not to cry. I make myself wood.
29	Bub be out all times of night drinking with boys twice his age.
44	He talk bout a strumpet in short skirts, smoking cigarettes, drinking gin. Singing for money and taking other women mens. Talk bout slut, hussy, heifer and streetcleaner.
49	First time I got the full sight of Shug Avery long black body with it black plum nipples, look like her mouth, I thought I had turned into a man. What you staring at? she ast. Hateful. She weak as a kitten. But her mouth just pack with claws. You never seen a naked woman before?
55	Celie, he say, you have my sympathy. Not many women let they husband whore lay up in they house.
65	I don't like to go to bed with him no more, she say. Used to be when he touch me I'd go all out my head. Now when he touch me I just don't want to be bothered. Once he git on top of me I think bout how that's where he always want to be. She sip her lemonade. I use to love that part of it, she say. I use to chase him home from the field. Git all hot just watching him put the children to bed. But no more. ...Mr. _____ clam on top of me, do his business, in ten minutes us both sleep. Only time I feel something stirring down there is when I think bout Shug. ...The worst part is I don't think he notice. He git up there and enjoy himself just the same. No matter what I'm thinking. No matter what I feel. It just him. Heartfeeling don't even seem to enter into it. She snort. The fact he can do it like that make me want to kill him.
72	Mr. _____ drink whiskey.
75	I can't believe it, she say. She sit down on the bench next to me real hard, like she drop. What he beat you for? she ast. For being me and not you. Oh, Miss Celie, she say, and put her arms around me. Us sit like that for maybe half a hour. Then she kiss me on the fleshy part of my shoulder and stand up. I won't leave, she say, until I know Albert won't even think about beating you.
76	Now we all know she going sometime soon, they sleep together at night. Not every night, but almost every night, from Friday to Monday. He go down to Harpo's to watch her sing. And just to look at her. Then way late they come home. They giggle and they talk and they rassle until morning. Then they go to bed until it

Page	Content
	<p>time for her to get ready to go back to work. First time it happen, it was a accident. Feeling just carried them away. That what Shug say. He don't say nothing. She ast me, Tell me the truth, she say, do you mind if Albert sleep with me? I think, I don't care who Albert sleep with. But I don't say that. I say, You might git big again. She say, Naw, not with my sponge and all. ...You like to sleep with him? I ast. Yeah, Celie she say, I have to confess, I just love it. Don't you? Naw, I say. Mr. _____ can tell you, I don't like it at all. What is it like? He git up on you, heist your nightgown round your waist, plunge in. Most times I pretend I ain't there. He never know the difference. Never ast me how I feel, nothing. Just do his business, get off, go to sleep. She start to laugh. Do his business, she say. Do his business. Why, Miss Celie. You make it sound like he going to the toilet on you. That what it feel like, I say. She stop laughing. You never enjoy it at all? she ast, puzzle. Not even with your children daddy? Never, I say. Why Miss Celie, she say, you still a virgin. What? I ast. Listen, she say, right down there in your pussy is a little button that gits real hot when you do you know what with somebody. It git hotter and hotter and then it melt. That the good part. But other parts good too, she say. Lot of sucking go on, here and there, she say. Lot of finger and tongue work. Button? Finger and tongue? My face hot enough to melt itself. She say, Here, take this mirror and go look at yourself down there, I bet you never seen it, have you? Naw. And I bet you never seen Albert down there either. I felt him, I say. I stand there with the mirror. She say, What, too shame even to go off and look at yourself? And you look so cute too, she say, laughing. All dressed up for Harpo's, smelling good and everything, but scared to look at your own pussy. You come with me while I look, I say. ...I lie back on the bed and haul up my dress. Yank down my bloomers. Stick the looking glass tween my legs. Ugh. All that hair. Then my pussy lips be black. Then inside look like a wet rose. It a lot prettier than you thought, ain't it? she say from the door. It mine, I say. Where the button? Right up near the top, she say. The part that stick out a little. I look at her and touch it with my finger. A little shiver go through me. Nothing much. But just enough to tell me this the right button to mash. Maybe. She say, While you looking, look at your titties too. I haul up my dress and look at my titties. Think bout my babies sucking them. Remember the little shiver I felt then too. Sometimes a big shiver.</p>

Page	Content
	<p>...Albert and Harpo coming, she say. And I yank up my drawers and yank down my dress. I feel like us been doing something wrong. I don't care if you sleep with him, I say. And she take me at my word. I take me at my word too. But when I hear them together all I can do is pull the quilt over my head and finger my little button and titties and cry.</p>
81	<p>All the men got they eyes glued to Shug's bosom. I got my eyes glued there too. I feel my nipples harden under my dress. My little button sort of perk up too. Shug, I say to her in my mind, Girl, you looks like a real good time, the Good Lord knows you do. ...Since he quit stuffing himself, he gained a bunch of weight, face, head and all, mostly from drinking home brew and eating left-over barbecue. By now he just about her size. A woman need a little fun, once in a while, she say.</p>
96	<p>He took my hat off, say Squeak. Told me to undo my dress. She drop her head, put her face in her hands. My God, say Odessa, and he your uncle. He say if he was my uncle he wouldn't do it to me. That be a sin. But this just little fornication. Everybody guilty of that.</p>
99	<p>Squeak sing, They calls me yellow like yellow be my name They calls me yellow like yellow be my name But if yellow is a name Why ain't black the same Well, if I say Hey black girl Lord, she try to ruin my game</p>
108	<p>She come over to Grady and put her arms round him, look up at him like he cute and he lean down and give her a kiss.</p>
109	<p>Mr. _____ drink all through Christmas. Him and Grady. ...He ain't beat me much since you made him quit, I say. Just a slap now and then when he ain't got nothing else to do. Yall make love any better? she ast. Us try, I say. He try to play with the button but feel like his fingers dry. Us don't git nowhere much. You still a virgin? she ast. I reckon. I say.</p>
111	<p>Mr. _____ and Grady gone off in the car together. Shug ast me could she sleep with me. She cold in her and Grady bed all alone. Us talk bout this and that. Soon talk about making love. Shug don't actually say making love. She say something nasty. She say fuck. ...He a little nervous too, but I don't know why, till he grab hold of me and cram me up tween his legs. I lay there quiet, listening to Shug breathe. It hurt me, you know, I say. I was just going on fourteen. I never even thought bout men having nothing down there so big. It scare me just to see it. And the way it poke itself and grow. Shug so quiet I think she sleep. After he through, I say, he make me finish trimming his hair.</p>

Page	Content
	<p>...Seem like it all come back to me, laying there in Shug arms. How it hurt and how much I was surprise. How it stung while I finish trimming his hair. How the blood drip down my leg and mess up my stocking. How he don't never look at me straight after that. And Nettie. ...Shug say, Wellsah, and I thought it was only whitefolks do freakish things like that. ...He clam on top of me and fuck and fuck, even when my head bandaged. Nobody ever love me, I say. She say, I love you, Miss Celie. And then she haul off and kiss me on the mouth. Um, she say, like she surprise. I kiss her back, say, um, too. Us kiss and kiss till us can't hardly kiss no more. Then us touch each other. I don't know nothing bout it, I say to Shug. I don't know much, she say. Then I feels something real soft and wet on my breast, feel like one of my little lost babies mouth. Way after while, I act like a little lost baby too.</p>
114	<p>Her back to me, my arms round her waist. What it like? Little like sleeping with mama, only I can't hardly remember ever sleeping with her. Little like sleeping with Nettie, only sleeping with Nettie never feel this good. It warm and cushiony, and I feel Shug's big tits sorta flop over my arms like suds. It feel like heaven is what it feel like, not like sleeping with Mr. _____ at all. ...Mr. _____ fall into bed next to me, drunk, and snoring before he hit the quilts.</p>
115	<p>I tell you something else, Shug say to Mary Agnes, listening to you sing, folks git to thinking bout a good screw. ...Shug say, What, too shamefaced to put singing and dancing and fucking together? She laugh. That's the reason they call what us sing the devil's music. Devils love to fuck. ...Niggers don't know how to act, but if you git through the first half of one song, you got 'em.</p>
119	<p>Shug laugh and laugh when he got anything to say. Show teef and tits aplenty. ...All this week I suffer. Grady and me feel so down he turn to reefer, I turn to prayer.</p>
120	<p>One thing my mama hated me for was how much I love to fuck, she say. She never love to do nothing had anything to do with touching nobody, she say. I try to kiss her, she turn her mouth away. ...My daddy love me to kiss and hug him, but she didn't like the looks of that.</p>
122	<p>I was so mean, and so wild, Lord. I used to go round saying, I don't care who he married to, I'm gonna fuck him. She stop talking a minute. Then she say, And I did, too. Us fuck so much in the open us give fucking a bad name. But he fuck Annie Julia too, she say, and she didn't have nothing, not even a liking for him. ...Finally she start to sleep with that man that shot her down. ...Nature said, You two folks, hook up, cause you a good example of how it sposed to go. ...But what was good tween us must have been nothing but bodies, she say.</p>
124	<p>One night when Mr. _____ and Grady gone, us open the trunk. Us find a lot of Shug's underclothes, some nasty picture postcards, and way down under his tobacco, Nettie's letters.</p>
126	<p>After while I had to rest, and that's when he got down from his horse and started to try to kiss me, and drag me back in the woods.</p>
145	<p>Make Albert let me sleep with you from now on, while you here, I say.</p>

Page	Content
146	Us sleep like sisters, me and Shug. Much as I still want to be with her, much as I love to look, my titties stay soft, my little button never rise. ...But she say, Naw, just being mad, grief, wanting to kill somebody will make you feel this way. Nothing to worry about. Titties gonna perk up, button gonna rise again.
148	Shug say children got by incest turn into dunces. Incest part of the devil's plan.
156	When I told her the Olinka don't believe in educating girls she said, quick as a flash, They're like white people at home who don't want colored people to learn.
174	Well, his store did so well that he talked two of his brothers into helping him run it, and, as the months went by, they were doing better and better. Then the white merchants began to get together and complain that this store was taking all the black business away from them, and the man's blacksmith shop that he set up behind the store, was taking some of the white. This would not do. And so, one night, the man's store was burned down, his smithy destroyed, and the man and his two brothers dragged out of their homes in the middle of the night and hanged. ...When the neighbors brought her husband's body home, it had been mutilated and burnt.
195	Ain't no way to read the bible and not think God white, she say. Then she sigh. When I found out I thought God was white, and a man, I lost interest.
205	While me and Shug sleeping and he driving, he tell Squeak all about life in North Memphis, Tennessee. I can't half sleep for him raving bout clubs and clothes and forty-nine brands of beer. Talking so much bout stuff to drink make me have to pee.
210	Us eat and eat, and drink a little sweet wine and beer too.
220	It just like whiskey, I say. You got to stay ahead of it. You know a little drink now and then never hurt nobody, but when you can't git started without asking the bottle, you in trouble. ...I smoke when I want to talk to God. I smoke when I want to make love. Lately I feel like me and God make love just fine anyhow. Whether I smoke reefer or not.
244	But she say, Naw, he died in his sleep. Well, not quite in his sleep, she say. Us was spending a little time in bed together, you know, before us drop off.
265	Some colored people so scared of whitefolks they claim to love the cotton gin.
270	I tried to tease her. You don't love old dumb Celie, I said. She ugly and skinny and can't hold a candle to you. She can't even screw. What I want to say that for. From what she tell me, Shug said, she don't have no reason to screw. You on and off like a jackrabbit. Plus, she say, Celie say you not always clean. And she turn up her nose.
272	Guess what, I say to him, folks in Africa where Nettie and the children is believe white people is black peoples children.
274	They tried to explain to the missionaries that it was they who put Adam and Eve out of the village because they was naked. Their word for naked is white. But since they are covered by color they are not naked. They said anybody looking at a white person can tell they naked, but black people can not be naked because they can not be white.
275	But they say just like they know history before the white children start to come, they know the future after the biggest of 'em leave. They say they know these particular children and they gon kill each other off, they still so mad bout being unwanted. Gon kill off a lot of other folk too who got some color. In fact, they gon kill off so much of the earth and the

Page	Content
	<p>colored that everybody gon hate them just like they hate us today. Then they will become the new serpent. And wherever a white person is found he'll be crush by somebody not white, just like they do us today. And some of the Olinka peoples believe life will just go on and on like this forever.</p> <p>...They think, after the biggest of the white folks no longer on the earth, the only way to stop making somebody the serpent is for everybody to accept everybody else as a child of God, or one mother's children, no matter what they look like or how they act.</p>
287	<p>Plus, he not a good influence for no child. Course, I wasn't either, she say. Smoking so much reefer.</p>

Profanity/Derogatory Term	Count
Ass	4
Bitch	4
Fuck	12
Goddamn	2
Nigger	10
Piss	4
Pussy	5
Shit	8
Tit/Titties	9