

PRAISE FOR THE SERIES

Words dance. On the page, and off.
They tap and tumble.
They slide and glide.
They twist and twirl.
They bob and break.
They pop and lock.
They bend and bounce.
They shimmy and shake.
They jerk and twerk.
They rock and roll.
They even boogie and oogie.

That's the kind of visual joy I experienced reading *From A Black Perspective: The Blood*. Eddie S. Pierce has assembled an eclectic, inventive posse of wordsmiths for a collection that may be slender in volume but bountiful in pleasure.

In just a few pages, Pierce's juicy "Scot Free" turns the cougar trope—older woman falls for and is duped by a younger man—inside *out*.

Senyah Haynes' "Transitions" is a kaleidoscopic-like portrait, some characters and narratives crisscrossing, where sibling rivalry and racist generational police violence receive vivid shine.

"Unfeigned Adoration" by Katrina Harvey is a telling reminder that the greatest love of all is indeed learning to love yourself—and that one never actually reaches that destination, for there are always new things and new ways to love.

"Synthesis" by Donell Bonaparte is an intensely moving meditation on masculinity, loss, and longing. The emotional interiority that Bonaparte constructs between father and son is palpable and penetrating. No doubt, the novel this excerpt is from, *Walking to Jupiter*, will be a critical and commercial giant.

For crime drama and fantasy fans, there's *Graffiti Park*, Ken Compton's wild and whimsically spooky journey involving a detective nicknamed "Sherlumbo" who relies on the mystical powers and guidance of a 300-year-old bag lady to solve crimes.

Finally, for the romantics (and *unromantics*), Crystal Renée documents the intimate entanglements of three female childhood friends—one (somewhat happily) single, one (not-so-happily) engaged, one (unhappily) married—with humor and heart in "In the Company of Women."

My only complaint: this ride ended *way* too soon. So I anxiously anticipate "Volume Two: The People." In the meantime, I'm going to dive right back in and revisit these assured voices that illuminate the tragedy and beauty of humanity with passion and confidence. But this time, I'll pour a glass of white wine and select a soundtrack to accompany each dance...

– New York Times and Amazon Best Selling Author, James Earl Hardy in response to *From a Black Perspective: The Blood* (Volume One).

“Poignant and moving!”

Eddie Pierce Jr has brought together something truly special and poignant in the second volume of *From a Black Perspective*. I'll be honest: I did not know what to expect. What I found instead was something that moved me. Each short story had its own voice, its own pulse, its own heartbeat. But let me tell you about “Shatter” by Senyah Haynes! That short story about a little girl making a horrific discovery on an unassuming Saturday morning was my undoing! As I mentioned before, I did not know what to expect going in, but before I knew it, the rug had been pulled from under me and my head was hitting the edge of the coffee table on the way down!

I love a good word painter-y story. It resonates with my overactive imagination, and in this case, it was also triggering as hell. The anticipation, the creeping dread made every word that I read cut a bit deeper into my psyche. I was there in the living room, wallowing in grief and sorrow, just like little Faye on that fateful day in December. It all comes down to that one definitive moment that can stretch for eternity. That one moment that can make or break you. Masterful storytelling. And to think the author usually writes children's books!

This anthology of black experiences NEEDS to be on every book shelf not just for black folks, but for those who wish to understand us a little better. These are our struggles, our truths, and our lives. All from a black perspective (see what I did there?).

- Malachi Bailey, Creator of "HER," Author Comic book writer and Head of Development at Wingless Comics

“5.0 out of 5 stars "Connecting, Grounding, and Intersecting”

I saved this book for vacation on purpose. I knew with all the activities going on in Nicaragua for an extended weekend, I'd need something to ground me a bit... and I'm truly happy I did. I identified with these short stories a little too well in my opinion, and that's one of the many beauties of this book. Being able to see truths, heartbreak, love, and darkness told through these different authors' words is what sets this book aside from others.

While yet connecting with each one, whether it be personal encounters or just compassion for the author's story... the feeling of connectedness through these passages was the true the gem of this book and honestly it was more than I anticipated. The book's storytelling and composition also felt very natural.

The range of emotions and stories each writer brought to the book was collectively strong but what I also loved about this collection was that each story shined alone on their own.

I'd recommend this book to all Black people but especially those who feel that they are alone. This book proves that no one truly is alone. And also that this book is written for us and from our Black Perspective.”

- Brandon Maurice Wright, Co-host of "The Know Homo Show"
& Community Advocate

“I was actually sad when the book ended. I wanted even more.

I've been a fan of Author and Writer Eddie Pierce for the better part of a decade. He wowed me with his novel *LOVE: Something Infinite* and I've been hooked every since. This time around he shares the spotlight with the compilation of short stories from some really talented authors. Although, read the entire book I would like to focus on two stories that that affected me deeply.

The first is ‘Urwy’s Warning’ by Mr. Pierce himself. This piece made me tear up at the end because I knew exactly what was coming ashore. Hundreds of years of pain, death, and oppression. The visual he describes on the last page will be engrained in my memory forever.

My second favorite was the last piece by Dr. Tamara Hill titled ‘The Souls of Protest and Resistance from James Brown, Marvin Gaye, and Kendrick Lamar, Better Known as the ‘Godfather of Soul,’ ‘Prince of Motown,’ and ‘The Chosen One.’” This article tells the layered complex history of these three prolific musicians and the role they’ve played in the civil rights movement. I will admit there were things I learned and slightly ashamed that I didn't know earlier. So I thank her humbly for enlightening me.

This collection includes some amazing new writers as well. I strongly recommend this book! It’s a great read!!!”

- Isaac King, Community Leader & Co-host of "The Know Homo Show" on YouTube

“I was asked to give an honest opinion of this anthology, and went in blindly. What I discovered, was nothing short of amazing. Six stories about the black perspective, told by the people. The two that spoke to me the most are *My House Cried Tears* by Renée Thomas and “Shatter” by Senyah Haynes. Rainbow Room Publishing, LLC you really have something special on your hands.”

- Diane P. Rembert CEO, Host and Curator of Diamond's Literary World LLC

Thomas’ work, an excerpt from her upcoming novel, *My House Cried Tears*, more than adequately illustrates an all too common but not nearly sufficiently explored and championed theme. That of a resilient child unduly burdened and ill-equipped for the responsibilities of adult life who still manages to retain episodes of comedic joy reminiscent of Richard Wright’s *Black Boy*.

“Shatter,” by Children’s Literature author Senyah Haynes diverges from her more popularly known craft and propels us through the universal experiences of sudden, unnecessary tragic loss while expertly retaining a vital, innocent point of view. A testament to Haynes’ superb versatility in terms of subject matter.

As the title suggests, Brown’s excerpt from her upcoming autobiography, *Memoirs of a Hidden Pain*, is an exercise in critical introspection, an intelligent retrospective of resiliency, and a lesson in self-advocacy. She promotes self-examination and a path to healing without being preachy or overly clinical in a manner not necessarily common to a new writer with similar aims.

Ken Compton’s short story “Geraldine,” which details the loss and an admirable act of advocacy displayed by a professional caregiver, is a beautiful illustration of unexpected closure achieved through an act of kindness. A masterful handle on a timely theme most easily accessed by and undoubtedly essential in a “post” pandemic global society.

Dr. Hill’s article “The Souls of Protest and Resistance” encapsulates a highly intelligent and more than adequately informed recounting of the determination displayed on the part of musical giants James Brown, Marvin Gaye, and Kendrick Lamar in an effort to contribute to social change. The manner in which she explores the struggles and successes of these three lyrical master minds leaves the readers with an assurance that despite what’s going on, we gon’ be alright!

- Eddie S. Pierce, Founder & Publisher,
Rainbow Room Publishing LLC,
foreword for *From a Black Perspective: The People*

Publisher's Note: *From a Black Perspective* is the on-going manifestation of several collective dreams. Each volume features previously published and unpublished, established and new up-and-coming authors. As a whole, the project is a gathering of entertaining, inspirational, and educated voices modeled after the collective creative literary power of the long-celebrated Harlem Renaissance.

From a Black Perspective is a celebration of the diversity within the Black literary community. It serves as an antithesis to the notion that the Black community is monolithic in our interests, values, political views, and the genres in which we write but rather a people as varied as the hues of our skin. This three-part anthology affords Rainbow Room Publishing, LLC the opportunity to fulfill one of its primary objectives: providing a vehicle and platform to facilitate the publication of as many diverse and otherwise underrepresented voices as possible.

Your support of this project in its three-volume entirety or in part further enables the publication of each contributing author's individual creative and publishing efforts while inspiring countless Black voices. We encourage you to reserve space on your bookshelves for more individual works from each of these published authors in 2025 and beyond and to join your voices and aims similar to those represented in *From a Black Perspective* to ours by contacting the publisher.

Eddie S. Pierce

Founder & Publisher

Rainbow Room Publishing

For more information on Rainbow Room Publishing, LLC, our products and services visit:

www.rainbowroompublishing.com