



## Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel

By April Sinclair

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**Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel** By April Sinclair

*I still thought breasts might be more trouble than they were worth. Growing up reminded me a little bit of Hide and Go Seek. When it was your time to grow up, Natrue said, "Here I come, ready or not." And Nature could always find you.*

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## **Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel By April Sinclair Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Sinclair's much-touted story of a teenage girl confronting racial prejudice while growing up on Chicago's South Side during the late 1960s.

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From Kirkus Reviews

From newcomer Sinclair, the coming-of-age story of a black girl in 1960's Chicago. Jean ``Stevie" Stevenson is a child of the working poor. Her father is a hospital janitor, her mother is a bank teller, and Grandma owns a popular South Side chicken-stand. Sixth-grader Stevie, meanwhile, is tired of her mother's rules, her refusal to countenance ``black English," her attempts to make Stevie a dreaded ``L7" (square). Stevie's dream is to be popular and cool, and her wish is granted when ``all the way cool" Carla invites her to a party. Soon Stevie has had her first period, her first kiss (from sexy Yusef), and is learning that cool is not necessarily kind, for that dog Yusef has his classmates spy while the two show themselves to each other. All this is fresh and authentic. The trouble starts with Stevie's arrival at high school, which coincides with the ``black is beautiful" period (it's 1967). Here, the flow is disrupted by obvious setups intended to make points about race and sexual orientation. Stevie and Carla happen on their white art-teacher having a date with a black man--puppets miming the interracial experimentation of the period. At school, the sympathetic Nurse Horn puts Stevie in a quandary: Is it possible to be friends with a white woman, who may even be ``funny" (lesbian)? The question overshadows Stevie's almost consummated relationship with Sean, a straight-arrow senior, and although the good nurse answers it in best Ann Landers style (``because you have a schoolgirl crush on me doesn't make you a homosexual"), Stevie ends up dwarfed by her author's agenda. Sinclair's story works fine when she gives her characters room to breathe. A fair-to-middling debut. -- *Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Review

"A pleasure...heartwarming...memorable...told with earnestness and humor...a coming-of-age story with a twist." -- Anne Whitehouse, *Chicago Tribune*

"A pleasure..heartwarming..memorable..told with earnestness and humor.. a coming-of-age story with a twist" -- Anne Whitehouse, *Chicago Tribune*

"April Sinclair is an extraordinary storyteller. I loved this book!" -- Dorothy Allison, *author of Bastard Out of Carolina*

"Bold...moving...witty...wonderful...Sinclair never fails to make you laugh and never sacrifices the narrative to make a point." -- Veronica Chambers, *Los Angeles Times*

"Earthy...adventurous...a funny, fresh novel about growing up African-American in 1960's Chicago...Sinclair writes like Terry McMillan's kid sister." -- Suzanne Ruta, *Entertainment Weekly*

"Extraordinary...feisty, funny and wise." -- Sara Nelson, *Glamour*

"Poignant...well-crafted...vivid and brilliant...told by a voice so rich in character, it stands out among the ruck of 'growing up' tales." -- Paschal Fowlkes, *San Francisco Review of Books*

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What do you concerning book? It is not important with you? Or just adding material when you really need something to explain what your own problem? How about your time? Or are you busy person? If you don't have spare time to do others business, it is make you feel bored faster. And you have extra time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They have to answer that question mainly because just their can do that will. It said that about book. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is appropriate. Because start from on kindergarten until university need that Coffee Will Make You Black: A Novel to read.

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