



## Nellallitea “Nella” Larsen

- \* Author during the Harlem Renaissance
- \* Mixed race
- \* Born in Chicago on April 13, 1891
- \* Married Elmer S. Imes
  
- ❖ Mother- Marie Hanson (Danish immigrant case worker)
- ❖ Father- Peter Walker (Black West Indian; eventually left the picture)
  
- \* Struggles of Childhood:
  - Only mixed race member of household
  - Neighbors that were racially friendly were hard to find in Chicago
  - Spent many years with Mother’s relatives in Chicago
  
- \* Colleges attended:
  - Fisk University( Nashville, TN)
  - University of Copenhagen
  
- \* Places of Work:
  - Nursing at Lincoln Hospital
  - Head nurse in training school at Tuskegee Institute
  - Librarian at 135<sup>th</sup> Street branch of New York Public Library
  - Children’s Librarian
  
- \* Literature:
  - *Passing*
  - *Quicksand*
  - Accused of plagiarizing in her last short story
  
- \* Themes:
  - Racial inequality
  - Motherhood
  - Marriage