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 135th 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