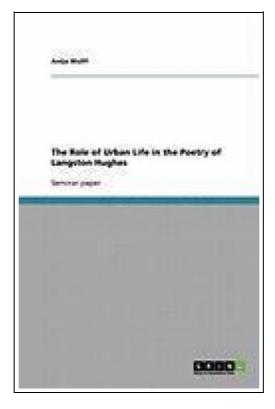
# The Role of Urban Life in the Poetry of Langston Hughes



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## Reviews

Great electronic book and useful one. It can be writter in straightforward terms rather than difficult to understand. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.

(Kian Harber)

### THE ROLE OF URBAN LIFE IN THE POETRY OF LANGSTON HUGHES



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GRIN Verlag Mrz 2009, 2009. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 226x151x18 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware-Seminar paper from the year 2003 in the subject American Studies - Literature, grade: 1,0, University of Trier, course: The Poetry and Poetics of Langston Hughes, 13 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: Langston Hughes was an urban person. Originally, he came from the rather rural Midwest of the United States, but he adopted the city as his real home very early in life and remained true to it ever since. In doing so, he acted very much in accordance with the zeitgeist of his period, which was hugely influenced by the sweeping processes of urbanisation started off earlier by the Industrial Revolution and the rise of capitalism. Living in a big city represented a completely new experience in American, and indeed human, history. None of the traditional patterns of life could be applied to it without change. Notably, it has been impossible up to now to find a valid and comprehensive definition of the phenomenon of the modern city, which says a lot about the complexity of the issue. The following essay aims to analyse the way Hughes interpreted the urban phenomenon, for his affinity to the city clearly found expression in his poetry. Although he visited countless cities both at home and abroad, the overwhelming majority of his urban poems deals with life in the Manhattan district of Harlem, which assumed a key role for African Americans at the beginning of the twentieth century and can also be regarded as the centre of Hughes' own life. Viewing Harlem as a microcosm of black urban life and using it as a blueprint in his poetic work, he managed to draw a diverse and multilayered image...



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