Sarah Armstrong

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English 111/enf 3

“Salvation”

Langston Hughes was an author who wrote poems. He was also an activist and a playwright. He wrote about an incident in his life and he called it, “Salvation.” When Hughes was 12 years old he went to a church function, where they were being brought to Jesus, for about three weeks continuously. At one of the revivals, they had a special meeting for children, one night, where he was brought to the mourners bench for those who had not been saved yet. He sat there waiting for Jesus, waiting for a light and to, “feel Jesus in your soul,” Hughes said (Hughes). His aunt told him that he would see the light and something would happen to him on the inside. The preacher was preaching and kept asking the children to come to Jesus; some went right away and others just sat there. Many of the older people there prayed around them, but he still sat there and waited for Jesus. The children went, but Hughes and one other boy. The other little boy got tired of sitting there and got up and went to the bench. So Hughes was there by himself, and the entire church prayed around him. Still, he was waiting and there was no Jesus. Langston wanted to see Jesus. The preacher kept asking him to come to Jesus. It was really getting late, and Langston started feeling guilty about holding everyone there late. He was looking at the other boy smiling down at him, knowing the other boy had lied about seeing Jesus, so Hughes got up and did the same. Everyone was relieved and his aunt hugged him, and everyone began singing and praising. Later that night, he cried because he did not want to tell his aunt that he lied and did not see Jesus and now did not believe there is a Jesus (Hughes).

Works Cited

Hughes, Langston. "Salvation." 20 Feb. 2012. *The Literature Network Forums*. <http://www.online-literature.com/forums/showthread.php?67465-Salvation-A-short-essay-by-Langston-Hughes >.