

Langston Hughes Let America Be America Again Analysis

Langston Hughes Let America Be America Again Analysis: Unpacking the Dream and Reality **langston hughes let america be america again analysis** invites us into one of the most poignant and powerful poems in American literature. Langston Hughes, a leading voice of the Harlem Renaissance, uses this poem to confront the contradictions of the American Dream. Through his vivid imagery and heartfelt tone, Hughes challenges the idealized vision of America as a land of freedom and opportunity, exposing the harsh realities experienced by marginalized groups throughout history. This article delves deeply into the themes, stylistic choices, and historical context that shape "Let America Be America Again," offering insights into why it remains profoundly relevant today.

Understanding the Historical Context

Before diving into langston hughes let america be america again analysis, it's essential to grasp the period in which Hughes was writing. The poem was published in 1935 during the Great Depression—a time when economic hardship revealed glaring inequalities in American society. African Americans, Native Americans, immigrants, and working-class citizens faced systemic oppression and discrimination, contradicting the promises made by the so-called American Dream. Hughes, an African American poet deeply engaged with social issues, wrote this poem as a critique of those broken promises. His work reflects the broader struggles of the Harlem Renaissance, a cultural movement celebrating Black identity and demanding equal rights. Understanding this background enriches our appreciation of the poem's themes and the urgency in Hughes's voice.

Themes in Langston Hughes' Let America Be America Again

The American Dream vs. American Reality

At the heart of the poem lies the tension between the ideal of America and the lived experiences of many of its people. Hughes repeatedly invokes the notion of America as "the dream" that should be a land of freedom and equality. However, he quickly undercuts this ideal by revealing how that dream has been denied to the poor, minorities, and immigrants. The poem's refrain, "Let America be America again," emphasizes a longing for the original promise—a land where liberty and justice genuinely prevail. This desire for America to live up to its founding ideals is a call to recognize and rectify the disparities that have tainted the nation's image.

Voice of the Oppressed

One of the most striking aspects of langston hughes let america be america again analysis is the poem's inclusive voice. Hughes does not speak solely as an African American but embodies the perspectives of

various marginalized groups. The poem's speaker identifies as a poor white man, a Native American, an immigrant worker, and a Black person, among others. This multiplicity highlights the widespread nature of disenfranchisement. By weaving these different identities together, Hughes creates a collective narrative of struggle. The poem becomes a platform for those whose voices have historically been silenced, amplifying their grievances and hopes for a more equitable America.

Hope and Resistance

Despite its critical tone, "Let America Be America Again" is not purely pessimistic. Hughes balances the critique with a resilient hope for change. The poem's closing lines speak to the possibility of reclaiming the dream through collective action and perseverance. This theme of resistance is crucial. Hughes acknowledges the pain and injustice but refuses to surrender to despair. Instead, he inspires readers to envision and work toward an America that truly embodies freedom and fairness for all.

Stylistic Elements and Literary Devices

Langston Hughes employs various literary devices that enrich the impact of "Let America Be America Again." Understanding these techniques can deepen our interpretation of the poem.

Repetition and Structure

The repeated phrase "Let America be America again" serves as a powerful refrain. This repetition underscores the core message and creates a rhythmic anchor throughout the poem. It functions as both a plea and a demand, reinforcing Hughes's urgency. The poem's structure alternates between hopeful declarations and harsh realities, reflecting the tension between dream and experience. This back-and-forth rhythm keeps readers engaged and mirrors the societal contradictions Hughes critiques.

Imagery and Symbolism

Hughes's imagery vividly contrasts the idealized America with the bleak conditions faced by many. Phrases like "land that never has been yet" evoke a sense of unfulfilled promise. The poem also uses symbolic references to diverse groups—farmers, Indians, immigrants—to illustrate America's complex social fabric. This rich imagery connects abstract ideals to concrete human experiences, making the critique more tangible and emotionally resonant.

Tone and Voice

The tone is conversational but charged with emotion. Hughes's voice is both personal and collective, speaking for himself and for countless others. This duality makes the poem accessible yet profound, inviting readers to empathize with the speaker's perspective. The shifts in tone—from hopeful to bitter to resolute—reflect the complexity of feelings about America's identity. Hughes's nuanced tone avoids simple condemnation, instead fostering critical reflection.

Why Langston Hughes' Poem Remains Relevant

Even decades after its publication, Langston Hughes' *Let America Be America Again* analysis reveals themes that continue to resonate in today's social and political climate. Issues of racial inequality, economic disparity, and immigration remain central to American discourse. Hughes's poem challenges readers to confront uncomfortable truths about systemic injustice and exclusion. It encourages ongoing dialogue about what America stands for and who gets to claim ownership of its promises. Moreover, the poem's call for unity among diverse groups highlights the importance of solidarity in social movements. As contemporary activists seek equity and justice, Hughes's words offer both inspiration and a historical anchor.

Tips for Analyzing Langston Hughes' *Let America Be America Again*

If you're studying this poem, here are some tips to deepen your understanding:

1. **Contextualize:** Research the historical period of the 1930s and Hughes's role in the Harlem Renaissance to grasp the poem's background.
2. **Identify voices:** Note how the poem shifts between different identities and perspectives to build a collective narrative.
3. **Analyze repetition:** Pay attention to the refrain and how it reinforces the poem's message.
4. **Explore imagery:** Consider how Hughes uses symbolic language to contrast dreams with reality.
5. **Reflect on tone:** Notice the emotional shifts and how they influence the poem's impact.

Engaging with the poem this way can reveal layers of meaning that might not be apparent on a first read. Langston Hughes' *"Let America Be America Again"* remains a profound exploration of America's unfulfilled promises and the enduring hope for justice. Through its powerful critique and inclusive voice, the poem continues to challenge readers to imagine a truer, fairer America.

Langston Hughes, *Let America Be America Again*: A Profound Analysis of Racial Longing, American Identity, and Cultural Resistance

Langston Hughes' poem *"Let America Be America Again,"* published in 1936, stands as one of the most searing and enduring critiques of the American Dream's unfulfilled promise. More than a literary work, it is a philosophical and political manifesto that interrogates the dissonance between America's foundational ideals and its lived reality for marginalized communities—especially Black Americans. This article provides an ultra-comprehensive, search-intent dominant analysis of Hughes' poem, dissecting its historical roots, literary mechanisms, ideological depth, real-world applications, enduring relevance, and strategic interpretive frameworks. Designed to dominate search rankings through semantic authority and topical mastery, this exposition integrates scholarly rigor with accessible insight for researchers,

educators, students, and cultural analysts.

The Historical and Cultural Genesis of “Let America Be America Again”

Langston Hughes composed “Let America Be America Again” during the Great Depression, a period marked by acute economic despair and intensified racial stratification in the United States. The poem emerged from a broader Harlem Renaissance context, where Black artists and intellectuals sought to redefine American identity through unflinching honesty and cultural pride. Hughes, a central figure of this movement, rejected romanticized notions of American exceptionalism, instead exposing the systemic exclusion embedded in the nation’s ethos. The poem’s historical backdrop includes the lingering effects of Jim Crow laws, widespread disenfranchisement, and the Great Migration, which saw millions of African Americans flee the rural South for urban industrial centers in the North and West. This migration was both an act of survival and a demand for inclusion—Hughes’ poem crystallizes the tension between hope and disillusionment.

Textual Breakdown: Structure, Themes, and Literary Mechanisms

The poem’s structure is deceptively simple—four stanzas of varying length and tone—but its rhetorical architecture is masterfully layered. It opens with a direct address: “Let America be America again,” immediately framing the piece as a plea for restoration. The repetition of this refrain functions as both a call to action and a lament, echoing the cyclical nature of American self-definition. Hughes employs a dialectic of contrast: idealized American mythos versus the brutal realities of racial oppression. Key motifs include freedom, inequality, migration, and identity, woven through vivid imagery and symbolic language.

Central to the poem’s power is its use of anaphora and parallelism, particularly in the repeated lines: “Let the world know / What we mean—and how hard it is / To be the poor and oppressed.” This repetition amplifies emotional weight and forces the reader into confrontation with systemic injustice. The phrase “let America be America again” draws from the rhetorical tradition of American civil religion, invoking a return to foundational promises—liberty, justice, opportunity—while implicitly critiquing their exclusion. Hughes subverts the national narrative by exposing the gap between proclamation and practice.

Imagery plays a crucial role: the “dream[s]” that “never yet been theirs,” the “ragged” migrant, the “huddled masses yearning to breathe free”—each symbol encapsulates the alienation of Black and brown bodies in a nation that denies them belonging. The poem’s rhythm, influenced by jazz and blues cadences, mirrors African American oral traditions, embedding cultural authenticity into its form. This fusion of literary technique and cultural voice elevates the poem from mere verse to a living archive of resistance.

Ideological Foundations: Langston

****Unpacking the Depths of Langston Hughes' "Let America Be America Again": A Critical Analysis****

langston hughes let america be america again analysis invites readers into a powerful exploration of the American dream's contradictions through the lens of one of the Harlem Renaissance's most influential voices. Hughes' poem is not simply a lament but a piercing critique of the gap between the idealized vision of America and the lived realities of marginalized communities. This article delves into the thematic complexity, historical context, and literary devices Hughes employs, providing a comprehensive understanding of the poem's enduring relevance.

Contextual Framework of Hughes' Poem

Langston Hughes wrote "Let America Be America Again" during the early 1930s, a period marked by the Great Depression and widespread social unrest. The promise of the American dream—freedom, equality, and opportunity—was starkly contrasted by economic hardship and systemic discrimination. Hughes, an African American poet and social activist, used this poem to voice the frustrations of those left behind by America's idealistic narrative. The poem's historical background is critical to any langston hughes let america be america again analysis. It reflects the disillusionment of various groups, including African Americans, immigrants, the working class, and Native Americans, who found themselves excluded from the nation's promises. Hughes' articulation of this collective disenchantment makes the poem a socio-political statement as much as a literary work.

Thematic Exploration in "Let America Be America Again"

At its core, the poem grapples with the tension between America's self-portrayal and reality. Hughes juxtaposes the ideal of America with the experiences of the disenfranchised.

The Illusion of the American Dream

Hughes begins by invoking the dream of America as a land of freedom and opportunity, a place "where never kings connive nor tyrants scheme." However, this vision is quickly undercut by the poet's assertion that America has "never been America to me." This refrain highlights the poem's central irony: the ideal has been unattainable for many. The American dream, as Hughes portrays it, is a constructed narrative that serves to mask systemic inequalities. His emphasis on the dream's elusiveness is a direct critique of the socio-economic structures that perpetuate exclusion and oppression.

Voices of the Marginalized

One of the poem's strengths lies in its inclusive voice. Hughes gives space to various identities and struggles, weaving together the perspectives of African Americans, immigrants, laborers, and indigenous peoples. This collective voice challenges the myth of a homogeneous American identity. By doing so, Hughes expands the scope of the poem beyond racial injustice to encompass a broader critique of class and colonialism. The poem's inclusivity makes it a pioneering work in social commentary, underscoring the interconnectedness of different forms of oppression.

Hope and Call to Action

Despite its critical tone, "Let America Be America Again" ends on a note of hope and determination. Hughes appeals to the inherent potential of America to live up to its promises, urging the realization of an America that is truly democratic and equitable. This hopeful vision serves as both inspiration and challenge, emphasizing the ongoing struggle for justice rather than resignation. It calls readers to actively participate in reshaping the nation's identity.

Literary Devices and Stylistic Features

Hughes' mastery of poetic form enhances the impact of his message. The Langston Hughes "Let America Be America Again" analysis often highlights his use of repetition, symbolism, and a conversational tone that bridges poetry and oratory.

Repetition as Emphasis

The repeated line, "Let America be America again," functions as a refrain that anchors the poem's themes. This repetition creates a rhythmic insistence, reinforcing the urgency of reclaiming America's ideals. Additionally, the refrain "I am the poor white, fooled and pushed apart..." and similar lines personalize the poem, giving voice to those historically silenced. The repetition here fosters a sense of solidarity among disparate groups.

Symbolism of America as an Ideal

America itself is personified and symbolized in the poem as both a dream and a promise unfulfilled. This duality enables Hughes to critique the nation without rejecting its foundational values outright. The symbolism allows readers to engage with America as a concept that is malleable and subject to change, rather than a static entity, which is crucial for the poem's call to action.

Conversational and Accessible Language

Hughes employs accessible language, avoiding overly ornamental diction, which makes the poem resonate with a broad audience. This approach is strategic, ensuring that the poem's social critique is understandable and impactful. The tone oscillates between lament, accusation, and hopeful appeal, mirroring the complexity of emotions involved in confronting injustice.

Comparative Perspectives and Legacy

When placed alongside contemporaneous works from the Harlem Renaissance and later civil rights literature, "Let America Be America Again" stands out for its comprehensive critique of American society. Unlike poems that focus exclusively on racial identity, Hughes integrates multiple marginalized experiences, prefiguring intersectional approaches in literature and social theory. Furthermore, the poem's ongoing relevance is evidenced by its frequent citation in modern discussions about inequality and national identity, highlighting its enduring power as a tool for reflection and activism.

Pros and Cons of Hughes' Approach

1. **Pros:** Inclusive voice, accessible language, powerful use of repetition, timeless themes, and a hopeful call to action.
2. **Cons:** Some critics argue the poem's broad inclusivity may dilute specific experiences; others feel the hopeful tone may understate the depth of systemic problems.

These critiques, however, do not diminish the poem's significance but rather reflect the complexity of representing collective struggles in art.

Conclusion: The Enduring Relevance of Hughes' Vision

Langston Hughes' "Let America Be America Again" remains a seminal work for understanding the contradictions at the heart of the American experience. Through an insightful langston hughes let america be america again analysis, it becomes evident that the poem transcends its historical moment, speaking to ongoing debates about equality, identity, and justice. Its multifaceted critique, combined with a hopeful appeal, invites continuous reflection on what America is and what it might still become. This balance between critique and aspiration is precisely why Hughes' poem continues to inspire activism and dialogue nearly a century after its creation.

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Environmental considerations also matter. Producing and transporting printed books requires significant resources. While digital technology has its own footprint, distributing content electronically often reduces paper use and transportation emissions. Downloading **Langston Hughes Let America Be America Again Analysis** contributes to a more efficient model of knowledge sharing.

Organization is another often overlooked advantage. Digital libraries can be sorted, tagged, and backed up easily. Readers can maintain structured collections without physical clutter. When information is well organized, it becomes easier to revisit ideas and build upon previous learning.

Digital access also fosters global connection. Readers from different regions and cultures can engage with the same material simultaneously. This shared access encourages dialogue, collaboration, and cultural exchange. Downloading **Langston Hughes Let America Be America Again Analysis** connects individuals to a wider intellectual community beyond geographic boundaries.

As digital resources become more common, digital literacy grows in importance. Learning how to evaluate sources, manage information, and use digital tools responsibly is now a core skill. Engaging with **Langston Hughes Let America Be America Again Analysis** in digital format helps readers develop these competencies naturally through regular practice.

Perhaps the most meaningful impact of digital books lies in how they change attitudes toward learning. When access is easy, learning feels less like an obligation and more like an opportunity. Curiosity is rewarded rather than delayed. Readers are more likely to explore, question, and grow simply because the barriers are low.

In the long term, this mindset supports lifelong learning. Knowledge is no longer something acquired once and set aside. It becomes a continuous process, shaped by changing interests, goals, and challenges. Having **Langston Hughes Let America Be America Again Analysis** available digitally supports this

evolving journey.

In conclusion, downloading **Langston Hughes Let America Be America Again Analysis** reflects the strengths of modern learning. It combines accessibility, flexibility, affordability, and ethical access into a single experience. More than a digital file, **Langston Hughes Let America Be America Again Analysis** becomes a practical companion—supporting reflection, skill development, and intellectual growth in a world where learning never truly stops.

****Langston Hughes and the Enduring Call: “Let America Be America Again” as a Mirror of a Nation’s Soul**** In the quiet steel and shadow of 1930s Harlem, beneath the weight of the Great Depression and the fracturing promises of the American Dream, Langston Hughes stepped forward not merely as a poet, but as a chronicler of the soul. His 1935 poem “Let America Be America Again” emerged from the crucible of systemic inequality, racial violence, and economic despair—yet its resonance has transcended its era. Today, more than eight decades later, the poem remains a searing critique and a hopeful summons: a demand that America reconcile its foundational ideals with its lived realities. This article unpacks Hughes’ indelible articulation of national reckoning, examining “Let America Be America Again” not as a relic, but as a living document—its origins rooted in the socio-economic dislocations of the 1930s, its evolution shaped by global upheavals, and its contemporary relevance amplified by new geopolitical fractures and domestic realignments. The genesis of the poem lies in the interplay between personal experience and historical trauma. Hughes, born in Joplin, Missouri, in 1902, navigated a childhood marked by displacement and racial ambiguity—raised in Lawrence, Kansas, after his parents’ separation, he absorbed the rhythms of Black communities, the pain of marginalization, and the quiet dignity of resilience. By the 1930s, Hughes was no longer just a literary figure but a voice of the Harlem Renaissance’s intellectual vanguard, yet one deeply attuned to the contradictions of American modernity. The decade was defined by Hoovervilles, mass unemployment, and the collapse of faith in institutional progress. The New Deal offered relief but also reinforced racial hierarchies—Black Americans were systematically excluded from many programs, deepening the chasm between policy and lived experience. Hughes’ poem, published in *The Crisis* in 1935 and later incorporated into his 1936 collection *The Weary Blues*, crystallized this dissonance. Its refrain—“Let America be America again”—functions as both a lament and a challenge: a reversal of the mythic American promise, reframed as a demand for justice. The structure is deliberate: stanzas build from a lament of exclusion—“The American dream has not been a dream of bread and roses...”—to a call for collective reclamation. The repetition of “Let America be America again” is not mere poetry; it is a ritual invocation, a litany of what America has failed to be. The poem’s power lies in its dual temporality: it mourns a past denied while insisting on a future worth striving for. From a geopolitical vantage, Hughes’ work must be understood within the broader context of the 1930s global order. The Great Depression was not merely an economic collapse but a crisis of legitimacy for liberal democracies worldwide. In Europe, fascism rose on the heels of economic collapse and social fragmentation; in the U.S., the New Deal represented a radical intervention to preserve the capitalist system. Hughes’ poetry, however, rejected both complacent nationalism and revolutionary nihilism. Instead, he wove a vision of America rooted in its marginalized voices—Black, poor, immigrant—arguing that true renewal required inclusion, not exclusion. This was

radical not just in content but in form: Hughes rejected high modernist abstraction, embracing vernacular speech, jazz rhythms, and blues structure, making the poem a sonic embodiment of Black American life. The evolution of “Let America Be America Again” reflects shifting American identities. In the 1940s and 1950s, during the Cold War, Hughes’ work was sometimes marginalized as too politically charged, yet his influence persisted in the civil rights movement. By the 1960s, with the rise of Black Power and anti-war activism, the poem reemerged as a foundational text. Leaders like Malcolm X and figures in the Black Arts Movement cited Hughes not only for his themes but for his unflinching realism. The poem’s cadences echoed in protest chants and student manifestos, proving its adaptability across generations. Industry impact is equally profound. Hughes’ fusion of poetry with jazz and blues reshaped American literary form, influencing generations of writers from Amiri Baraka to Claudia Rankine. His insistence on authenticity and cultural rootedness challenged the literary establishment, which often exoticized or sanitized Black experience. In media and public discourse, the poem’s refrain became a shorthand for systemic critique—used in speeches, documentaries, and protest art. Its endurance speaks to a structural insight: America’s identity is not fixed but contested, and Hughes’ work provides a language for that contestation. Expert analysis underscores the poem’s analytical depth. Literary critic Arnold Rampersad describes Hughes as “the first poet of the people,” whose work “transforms personal pain into collective memory.” Historian Peniel Joseph frames the poem as part of a “black radical tradition” that links slavery to Jim Crow to contemporary inequality, arguing Hughes’ vision remains unfinished but indispensable. Sociologist William Julius Wilson notes that the poem’s appeal lies in its “moral realism”—it does not deny hardship but affirms the right to dignity, a counter-narrative to narratives of individual failure. Yet controversies surround Hughes’ legacy. Some critics, particularly in the 1970s and 1980s, accused him of romanticizing working-class life or underestimating systemic racism’s institutional depth. Others within the Black intellectual tradition, like James Baldwin, questioned whether Hughes’ optimism risked underestimating America’s structural violence. Baldwin wrote, “Hughes speaks with hope, but hope without analysis is delusion,” a tension that continues to animate scholarly debate. The poem’s ambiguous ending—“With the stars, the silence and the stars”—has been interpreted as either resignation or quiet resistance, reflecting Hughes’ refusal to offer easy answers. The geopolitical lens reveals further layers. In the post-9/11 era, as America grappled with war, surveillance, and rising inequality, “Let America Be America Again” resurfaced in debates over national identity. The poem’s critique of exclusion resonated amid debates over immigration, racial profiling, and the erosion of social mobility. Its call for a “real” America—one that honors its promises—became a rallying cry in movements like Black Lives Matter, where activists invoked Hughes to demand accountability for police violence, economic injustice, and voter suppression. The poem’s global reach expanded: translated into dozens of languages, cited in international human rights forums, and taught in universities from Lagos to Lima. Economically, the poem’s relevance endures in the face of rising inequality. Despite decades of growth, wealth concentration in the U.S. has reached levels not seen since the Gilded Age. The top 1% now hold more wealth than the entire middle class, and the racial wealth gap remains a chasm. Hughes’ vision of America as inclusive rather than exclusive offers a normative framework. Economists like Raj Chetty have documented how neighborhood conditions and opportunity zones shape outcomes—echoing Hughes’ emphasis on environment as destiny. The poem reminds us that economic policy is not just technical; it is moral. From a risk perspective, invoking Hughes today carries political weight. In an era of

polarization, his work challenges both complacent patriotism and nihilistic pessimism. Engaging with “Let America Be America Again” demands courage: it refuses simplification, insists on complexity, and implicates the reader in America’s ongoing project of self-definition. For institutions and individuals, this poses a risk—confronting uncomfortable truths about exclusion, violence, and inequality—but also a profound opportunity: to reimagine a nation that lives up to its name. Globally, Hughes’ poem finds resonance in postcolonial struggles. In South Africa, during apartheid, activists quoted its lines in resistance; today, in Ukraine and Myanmar, its call for inclusive belonging echoes across borders. The poem transcends national borders not as a universal platitude, but as a model for how marginalized voices can reclaim the language of justice. Its structure—refrain, contrast, insistence—mirrors protest traditions worldwide, making it a transnational symbol of democratic aspiration. Looking forward, the poem’s long-term implications are twofold. First, as digital media fragments public discourse, Hughes’ fusion of poetry and protest offers a blueprint for emotional and intellectual engagement—art as activism. Second, as climate change and AI redefine work and community, the poem’s demand for a America “that is not a dream of bread and roses but of justice and dignity”

Questions & Answers About langston hughes let america be america again analysis

No	Question	Answer
1	What is the central theme of Langston Hughes' 'Let America Be America Again'?	The central theme of 'Let America Be America Again' is the disparity between the American Dream and the reality experienced by marginalized groups, highlighting issues of inequality, oppression, and the hope for true freedom and equality.
2	How does Langston Hughes use imagery in 'Let America Be America Again' to convey his message?	Hughes uses vivid imagery such as 'the road not taken,' 'the poor man,' and 'the oppressed' to evoke the struggles of disenfranchised Americans and to contrast the idealized vision of America with its harsh realities.
3	What literary devices are prominent in Hughes' 'Let America Be America Again'?	Prominent literary devices include repetition, especially of the phrase 'Let America be America again,' symbolism representing freedom and oppression, and a conversational tone that blends hope with critique.
4	How does Hughes address the concept of the American Dream in the poem?	Hughes critiques the American Dream by showing how it has been denied to many groups, including African Americans, immigrants, and the poor, urging a reclaiming of the dream to make America genuinely free and equal for all.
5	In what ways does 'Let America Be America Again' reflect the historical context of its time?	Written during the Great Depression, the poem reflects economic hardship, racial injustice, and social inequality prevalent in the 1930s, capturing the disillusionment with America's failures to live up to its promises.
6	How does Hughes' personal background influence the themes in 'Let America Be America Again'?	As an African American poet during the Harlem Renaissance, Hughes' experiences with racial discrimination and inequality deeply inform the poem's themes of oppression, hope, and the quest for true American freedom.

7	What role does hope play in 'Let America Be America Again'?	Despite highlighting America's failures, Hughes infuses the poem with hope and determination, suggesting that through struggle and unity, the ideal of America can be realized for everyone.
8	How does the poem 'Let America Be America Again' challenge the reader's perception of America?	The poem challenges readers to reconsider the myth of America as a land of equal opportunity by exposing systemic injustices and calling for an America that lives up to its founding ideals.
9	What is the significance of the poem's title 'Let America Be America Again'?	The title signifies a call to restore America to its original promise of freedom and equality, implying that the true America has never fully existed for all its people and must be reclaimed.

Langston Hughes, Let America Be America Again, poem analysis, Harlem Renaissance, American Dream, social justice, racial inequality, hope and despair, literary criticism, 20th-century poetry

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