

# **Bloodline: Five Stories**

By Ernest J. Gaines



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In these five stories, Ernest Gaines returns to the cane fields, sharecroppers' shacks, and decaying plantation houses of Louisiana, the terrain of his great novels *A Gathering of Old Men* and *A Lesson Before Dying*. As rendered by Gaines, this country becomes as familiar, and as haunted by cruelty, suffering, and courage, as Ralph Ellison's Harlem or Faulkner's Yoknapatawpha County.

Gaines introduces us to this world through the eyes of guileless children and wizened jailbirds, black tenants and white planters. He shows his characters eking out a living and making love, breaking apart aand coming together. And on every page he captures the soul of black community whose circumstances make even the slightest assertion of self-respect an act of majestic—and sometimes suicidal—heroism. *Bloodline* is a miracle of storytelling.

#### STORIES INCLUDE:

A Long Day in November The Sky Is Gray Three Men Bloodline Just Like a Tree



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# Bloodline: Five Stories By Ernest J. Gaines Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

#### Review

"Mr. Gaines writes with notable control, a superb ear for speech. . . . Brilliantly subtle and complex." —*The New York Times Book Review* 

"[Gaines] unerrringly evokes the time and place about which he writes." —Los Angeles Times

"Gaines knows how to tell a story—[He writes] with humor, a strong sense of drama and a compassioinate understanding of people who find themselves in opposing positions." —Jonathan Yardley, Washington Post

From the Publisher

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# From the Inside Flap

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