

# NEGRO

By Langston Hughes

I am a Negro:

Black as the night is black,  
Black like the depths of my Africa.

I've been a slave;

Caesar told me to keep his door-steps clean.  
I brushed the boots of Washington.

I've been a worker:

Under my hand the pyramids arose.  
I made mortar for the Woolworth Building.

I've been a singer:

All the way from Africa to Georgia.  
I carried my sorrow songs.  
I made ragtime.