

In English class I have been reading a book named *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison. This book is a Morrison's first novel. It was written in 1970 while Toni Morrison was teaching at Howard University. Morrison developed the story from her own experiences as a child. The setting in the story is the same place where she grew up as a child. Also one of the characters in the story is the same age that Morrison would have been in 1941. She even relates the MacTeer's family situation to her own when she was a child. This was Morrison's first novel but that didn't stop it from being the one of the best. *The Bluest Eye* had received many such as awards the 1993 Nobel Prize in literature, 1996 National Book Foundation Metal, 1994 the Peal Buck Award, the title of Commander of the Order of Arts, and 1978 Distinguished Writer Award. This book is also featured in Oprah's book club for its unique story, use of a wide range in vocabulary, and daring vision.

The main character in the story is a young girl named Pecola Breedlove. She is poor and grows up in a tuff living situation. Her father is a alcoholic who has no idea of how to over and care for his family and her mother also has self image problems. Pecola is in a state where she feels that she's ugly. She's been told that she was ugly by kids and even her mother so she starts to believe it's true. Pecola feels like her dark complexion and eyes doesn't measure up to Shirley Temple's or any other beautiful blue-eyed white girl. Pecola believes that if she has blue eyes her life would be easier or if she was prettier she would have more opportunities. Her obsession with having blue eyes leaves her dry with a sound mind and sanity.

Another character in the book is Claudia MacTeer. She is the narrator of the story. He character somewhat symbolizes the author of the book Toni Morrison. Claudia is a caring person who is growing up a loving home with its problems. Unlike Pecola Claudia is satisfied with herself. She is not a fan of celebrity figures or things that represent vanity. Claudia had a older sister named Frieda. Frieda is very protective of her little sister.

I would have to say that my favorite character in the book is Claudia MacTeer. I admire her because she accepts herself for who she is. She doesn't think of anybody to be better than herself. She is firm in her beliefs and she doesn't let anyone change her view. I think that her character represent the theme that people should be happy and accept who they are.

I really enjoyed reading this book. I related to Pecola and I think many others can. Reading the book made me reflect on past situations. I've also been told that I was ugly and I was bullied a few years back. These situations made me a stronger person and allowed me to develop a backbone. The book was strong and told a life changing story to be happy with yourself. One thing that I think should be changed is some of the stories the book. This book has been banned from school libraries because of the stories of sex and rape. I would recommend this book to young mature teens or really anyone who likes drama. I wouldn't recomend this boom to younger kids because of some o stories in the book are too vulgar for little kids.