

Invisible Life: A Novel

By E. Lynn Harris

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The re-issue of a remarkable first novel by a young, gay, black author who fashioned a deeply moving and compelling coming of age story out of the highly controversial issues of bisexuality and AIDS.

Law school, girlfriends, and career choices were all part of Raymond Tyler's life, but there were other, more terrifying issues for him to confront. Being black was tough enough, but Raymond was becoming more and more conscious of sexual feelings that he knew weren't "right." He was completely committed to Sela, his longtime girlfriend, but his attraction to Kelvin, whom he had met during his last year in law school, had become more than just a friendship.

Fleeing to New York to escape both Sela and Kelvin, Raymond finds himself more confused than ever before. New relationships--both male and female--give him enormous pleasure but keep him from finding the inner peace and lasting love he so desperately desires. The horrible illness and death of a friend eventually force Raymond, at last, to face the truth.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review
E. Lynn Harris's track record as a bestselling novelist began here, with the story of Raymond Tyler, who, after years of questioning his sexual identity, finds himself torn between a married male lover and Nicole, the talented actress with whom he imagines himself able to spend the rest of his life. With a rich cast of supporting characters and emotionally wrenching plot twists, this debut proved popular enough in a self-published edition to catch the attention of Doubleday, which bought the rights to *Invisible Life* and has published each of Harris's four subsequent novels, including two sequels, *Just As I Am* and *Abide with Me*.

From Library Journal
This trilogy follows Raymond Tyler Jr. from his college days through his years as a successful young attorney. It is in college that he encounters his first homosexual experience, at a time when he has a steady girlfriend. When he takes his first job in New York City, he settles into a bisexual lifestyle but becomes engaged to Nicole, the other central figure in the series, who ambitiously pursues a show business career while searching for the perfect man. Raymond ultimately chooses a gay lifestyle but unlike some of his friends, who are comfortable with their sexual preference, he reflects on his choice. Harris (And This Too Shall Pass) has created a body of diverse characters, a group of friends and family members who admirably demonstrate a continuity of love and support. This is a work about young middle-class black people who, regardless of sexual preference, are looking for the perfect partner. For those who are gay or bisexual, there is the added pressure of disapproval from many corners. Michael Boatman's reading in all three novels is dynamic. He ably portrays the author's colorful characters, while Brenda Braxton takes the role of Nicole in Just As I Am. The story moves along and keeps the listener absorbed. The three tapes would make an interesting choice for adult fiction collections.ACatherine Swenson, Norwich Univ., Northfield, VT
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Review
Critical Acclaim for **Invisible Life**:

Selected in **Vibe** magazine's Fifth Anniversary Edition as one of its favorite books "on race, gender, and rules you must not live without."

"A quick, entertaining and thought-provoking read--This is a compelling story that commands and holds the attention until the final page is turned."
--**Atlanta Journal-Constitution**

"Black Americans--have been given a rare opportunity with this book to broaden their understanding of lifestyles like or unlike their own. Mr. Harris has stimulated a dialogue within the African-American community, desperately needed for so long, about the complicated issues of sexuality."
--**Southern Voice**

"Powerful and vividly told--the story is compelling and leaves the reader wanting more."
--**Lambda Book Report**

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Tim Travers:

The book Invisible Life: A Novel can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Exactly why must we leave the good thing like a book Invisible Life: A Novel? Several of you have a different opinion about guide. But one aim this book can give many data for us. It is absolutely right. Right now, try to closer together with your book. Knowledge or details that you take for that, you are able to give for each other; you are able to share all of these. Book Invisible Life: A Novel has simple shape but you know: it has great and massive function for you. You can appear the enormous world by available and read a guide. So it is very wonderful.

Judy Washburn:

What do you concerning book? It is not important along with you? Or just adding material when you want something to explain what the ones you have problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy individual? If you don't have spare time to try and do others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have time? What did you do? Every individual has many questions above. They have to answer that question since just their can do in which. It said that about guide. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is correct. Because start from on jardín de infancia until university need this kind of Invisible Life: A Novel to read.

Francis Griffin:

Are you kind of stressful person, only have 10 as well as 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book compared to can satisfy your short space of time to read it because this time you only find book that need more time to be examine. Invisible Life: A Novel can be your answer since it can be read by you actually who have those short spare time problems.

Crystal Thomas:

Is it an individual who having spare time after that spend it whole day by simply watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Invisible Life: A Novel can be the answer, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are thus out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this brand new era is common not a geek activity. So what these guides have than the others?

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