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Posted on 11 October 2019 By Terry McMillan

Waiting to Exhale received all of the acclaim and is the book that changed the face of publishing to a significant degree as the industry suddenly realized that African Americans read too, and sometimes even like to read about fictional characters who remind them of themselves But in my opinion this is Ms McMillan s strongest novel It s easy to become immersed in her work, forgetting that you re reading and instead envisioning yourself as a fly on the wall easesdropping on lives that seem as real as those of your friends and neighbors. 1.5 STARS

Franklin s tired of women, tired of trouble He s young, he s six feet four and he likes to pump iron But his ex wife s riding him for money to keep their two children, and there s no security in construction work Not in New York anyway, and especially not if you re black All Franklin really wants is to stay together, stay in work and, most of all, stay out of love.And Zora She s a music teacher, fresh from Ohio, looking for that one big break as a singer songwriter She s going to get an apartment, get fit, and get her first songs down on a demo tape The last thing she wants is to disappear into another relationship, and wind up with another broken heart.But when Franklin sees Zora and Zora sees Franklin, none of it means a damn Everything their pasts, their independence, their plans evaporates in the electric charge of one of the most passionate, turbulent and memorable affairs in contemporary fiction From It was well written but I did not like the storyline or Franklin. I m not really a Terry McMillan fan, but I really admired this book I thought it was a pretty honest portrayal of the progression of a romantic relationship first you re enad then you re disillusioned,

sometimes to the point of being disturbed then, maybe, you find your way back to each other. It's not an uncommon storyline, but the way she exposes her characters' darker yet utterly mundane side is pretty unusual in fiction. It was a pretty book. Yes, I said pretty NOT pretty good or pretty bad just pretty. Like you would call a person pretty. I hated the ending by the way. After all I went through via the character's lives by the end I wasn't SOO satisfied with the outcome. But the story was nice. Terry McMillan is ON POINT. He Was Tall, Dark As Bittersweet Chocolate, And Impossibly Gorgeous, With A Woman Melting Smile She Was Pretty And Independent, Petite And Not Too Skinny, Just His Type. Franklin Swift Was A Sometimes Employed Construction Worker, And A Not Quite Divorced Daddy Of Two. Zora Banks Was A Teacher, Singer, Songwriter. They Met In A Brooklyn Brownstone, And There Could Be No Walking Away In This Funny, Gritty Urban Love Story. Franklin And Zora Join The Ranks Of Fiction's Most Compelling Couples, As They Move From Scrabble To Sex, From Layoffs To The Limits Of Faith And Trust. Disappearing Acts Is About The Mystery Of Desire And The Burdens Of The Past. It's About Respect, What It Can And Can't Survive And It's About The Safe And Secret Places That Only Love Can Find. This book started off pretty good. Kept me interested and coming back for. I am mid way through the book and I find myself having to motivate myself to continue on. I so want to put this book down and start a new one but I have decided that my New Year's resolution for 2010 is to finish what I start. There is no better time than the present to make a lifestyle change. But this book is making me regret that change. It is way too mushy for my taste. And Zora is a pathetic fool who is madly in love with Franklin, a man who not only does nothing for her but takes her to bed but is demanding, controlling, unemployed, married, a deadbeat father of two, and finds a way to ruin every chance Zora has of having a little fun. Yet, she makes excuses for his childish behavior and caters to his every whim. The movie was so much better. Thank goodness I was so absorbed by this book. It is the story of a relationship. Love with the perspective of both man and woman which was done in an interesting way. The man's thoughts in one chapter moving on to the woman's. Back and forth. Love, struggles with betrayal, strength, intelligence, bread winner, etc. At the core

was love and I wanted love to win out even when obviously causing one, the other or both grief, depending on the chapter No ending from me but will recommend to anyone who likes great fiction You also get a good look at minorities this one African American special struggles I am happy to have come across an author like Terry McMillan and will be looking for of her books. Excellent I m reviewing the book Disappearing Acts by Terry McMillan It s a fictional book about a black woman and man who struggle with society s views, relationships, and life in general Disappearing Acts is based on the everyday struggles of a black woman Zora, and man Franklin, living in New York during the 80 s Franklin is a tall handsome handyman who works construction He s very intelligent, but knows that means little when your black and a high school dropout Franklin feels no one will ever give him a break especially when his own mother can t Zora is a successful middle school music teacher who s passion is singing, and is determined to one day make it big After meeting coincidentally at Zora s new place Franklin quickly finds himself falling for Zora Although Zora is hesitant not knowing much about Franklin they quickly find their relationship going from zero to sixty in three months It starts to slow down though when some secrets are revealed Franklin finds out about Zora hiding her epilepsy from him, and Zora finds out about his two sons and his wife Who although they have been separated for a number of years have not gotten the divorce yet because of money They manage to overcome it though but when jealousy, an abortion, drinking, a blow to the face, and their newborn son comes into play everything changes They find out their bond might not be as strong as they thought, and Franklin feels he needs some time to accomplish what he had set out to do before meeting Zora Going to his classes, doing things for himself by himself, and trying to start his own business While doing this he only sees his son and Zora once every couple months with no communication in between, but they soon find out the break was just what they needed I thought the book was very entertaining It was drama filled, suspenseful, and kept me on my toes the entire time I especially liked how one chapter was written by Zora, one by Franklin, and so on Also how vivid the book is I could picture Zora s classy apartment, Franklin s tall stature, and their vacation to Saratoga very

easily Even when starting on the first couple pages you get a sense that the book is different Everyone can relate to it Whether it be how your misunderstood, feel like you can't get ahead, having relationship issues, or are just trying to pursue your dreams, like me I think mature readers would enjoy reading this Either male or female, because one gender isn't the main character Both a man and a woman share the spotlight equally Mature teen readers would benefit most from this book, because it shows how you can overlook someone's faults and love them in spite of them It also it shows how to stand up for yourself, and forgive people for their mistakes I think people who enjoy Terry McMillan's work will love this book Its different from *Waiting To Exhale* and *How Stella Got Her Groove Back* because this is from both genders point of view But still has the bluntness of Terry's writing Overall I give the book two thumbs up I think it was the perfect drama book It portrayed a relationship through many eyes, and was written in a way to capture readers. I liked that Terry McMillan dived right into the storyline And the fact that it was a romance pulled me right in But I won't lie, I spent most of the time trying to figure out when Zora was going to leave Franklin for good It didn't seem like Zora and Franklin had a lot of good times and he was so insufferable Throughout most of the book I wondered why they Zora was still dealing with him I wasn't committed to their relationship or love and for most of the book wondered where the romance and love was Yay to the writing, boo to the storyline.

