This information sheds light on Langston Hughes' broader belief in the transformative potential of artistic expression as a tool for social change, particularly in challenging racial stereotypes and promoting racial equality. This perspective enriches our understanding of the poem's thematic significance and its relevance within Hughes' broader ideological framework. Understanding Hughes' perspective adds depth to the interpretation of "As I Grew Older" by framing it within the context of his advocacy for social justice through art. The poem can be seen as a reflection of the African–American experience, with the "wall of darkness" symbolizing the societal barriers and oppression faced by the speaker