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CHRISTIAN HUMANISM IN
WILLIAM FAULKNER'S PORTRAYAL OF
AFRO-AMERICAN WOMEN - READINGS
FROM SELECTED NOVELS

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Synopsis

This dissertation addresses a possible existence of Christian Humanism in William Faulkner's portrayal of Afro-American women characters.

The Afro-American women characters are featured in four novels individually :

<i>The Sound And The Fury</i>	(1929)
<i>Absalom, Absalom!</i>	(1936)
<i>Go Down, Moses</i>	(1942)
<i>Requiem For A Nun</i>	(1951)

This dissertation focuses on the characterization of the four women, that of Dilsey Gibson (*The Sound And The Fury*), Clytie Sutpen (*Absalom, Absalom!*), Mollie Beauchamp (*Go Down, Moses*) and Nancy Mannigoe (*Requiem For A Nun*).

Their behavioural attitudes, their relationships with those whom they come into contact with and their actions are examined.

Included in the dissertation is a discussion on the following areas :

1. Has the portrayal of William Faulkner's Afro-American women characters undergone important changes within a span of twenty-odd years?
2. How does Christianity affect these women?
3. Is it possible for a Black Christian Humanism to exist in studying the characterization of these women?

This dissertation concludes with the view that these women are Christian Humanists in behavioural aspects and significantly, it is their own selves that depict the elements of Christian Humanism.