

Bigger

Morally Ambiguous main character of Richard Wright's Native Son

Misunderstood, Murderer, Conflicted, Alienated

Lover of using others as scapegoats to hid his own fear and insecurity, making poor decisions based on instinct ad the need to survive, wreaking havoc on the unstable lives of his family, the Daltons, Mary, Jan, and Bessie

Who believed he was too powerless to help his family overcome their impoverished conditions in Chicago; who believed the messages conveyed through popular culture truly depicted the lives of the white community, a community he had limited contact with and understanding of; and who also believed, he had every reason to die for causing undeserved harm to others, but even more reason to live for others causing undeserved harm to him

Who wanted to give his family a better life, protect himself by any means necessary, and to understand and to be understood

Who used anger to hide his fear, shame, and guilt; endless amounts of violence to silence those who meant him no harm; and, his instinct to help him avoid being captured, until this same instinct led to his ultimate fate.

Who gave no more than he needed to give in order to get what he wanted, his brother sound advice that can only be learned through experience, and readers of Native Son a door to open conversations about existing race relations

Who said "He felt there was something missing, some road, which, if he had once found it, would have led him to a sure and quiet knowledge. But why think of that now? A chance for that was gone forever. He had committed murder twice and had created a new world for himself."

Thomas

