Name _____ Date _____ ANSWERS

Historical Heroes: Lorraine Hansberry

A scene from the film, "A Raisin in the Sun."

Lorraine Hansberry was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1930. Her parents fought for equal rights for African Americans. She also fought for civil rights when she was older.

When she was a small child, Hansberry's family moved to a neighborhood that was only for white residents. That was against the law at the time. Hansberry's father took the family's case to the Supreme Court. They fought to be able to live where they wanted. Her mother stayed to guard the home. She was ready to defend her children if she had to. The family won their case, but it was a hard time for them.

Lorraine Hansberry was a playwright. A playwright is a person who writes plays. She wrote a play called "A Raisin in the Sun." She used her experience as a child to write the story. It was the first Broadway play written by an African American.

Hansberry was only 29 years old when she won a big award. She won the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best Play. She was the youngest African American playwright to win the award. Hansberry's promising career was cut short by her death from pancreatic cancer at the age of 34.

Directions: Answer the questions below. Use text evidence to support your answers.

1. Lorraine Hansberry wrote a Broadway play called "A Raisin in the Sun".

2. How did Lorraine Hanbserry's dad fight for his family?

Lorraine Hansberry's dad fought for his family to be able to live wherever they wanted, even if the law said that only white people were allowed. He took the case to the Supreme Court.

3. Where did Lorraine Hansberry get her ideas for "A Raisin in the Sun"?

Lorraine Hansberry got her ideas for "A Raisin in the Sun" from her experiences as a kid.

4. How old was Lorraine Hansberry when she won the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play?

Lorraine Hansberry was 29 years old when she won the award.

© ThuVienTiengAnh.Com