



## The Heart Of A Woman, by Maya Angelou

By Maya Angelou

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### The Heart Of A Woman, by Maya Angelou By Maya Angelou

The Heart of a Woman (1981) is an autobiography by African-American writer Maya Angelou. The book is the fourth installment in Angelou's series of seven autobiographies. Critic Mary Jane Lupton says it has "a narrative structure unsurpassed in American autobiography" and that it is Angelou's "most introspective" autobiography. The title is taken from a poem by Harlem Renaissance poet Georgia Douglas Johnson, which connects Angelou with other female African-American writers. The Heart of a Woman recounts events in Angelou's life between 1957 and 1962 and follows her travels to California, New York City, Cairo, and Ghana as she raises her teenage son, becomes a published author, becomes active in the US civil rights movement, and becomes romantically involved with a South African freedom fighter. Like Angelou's previous volumes, the book has been described as autobiographical fiction, though most critics, as well as Angelou, have characterized it as autobiography. Although most critics consider Angelou's first autobiography *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* more favorably, *The Heart of a Woman* has received positive reviews. It was chosen as an Oprah's Book Club selection in 1997.

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## **The Heart Of A Woman, by Maya Angelou** By Maya Angelou Bibliography

- Published on: 2006
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