ReadingGroupGuides
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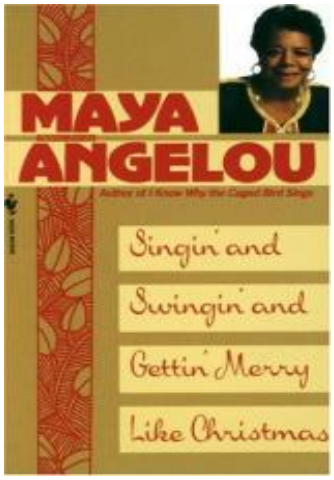
Singin' And Swingin' And Gettin' Merry Like Christmas

by Maya Angelou



About the Book

Here Maya Angelou, dazzling entertainer, casts the spotlight on her show business career -- a pageant of international scope. Maya, the woman, shares her sad, failed marriage to a white man, her early motherhood and achingly sensitive relationship with her young son, and her bone-deep, painful suspicion of the white world that welcomes her talent so dramatically ...

Discussion Guide

1. If **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings** is about self-discovery, and **Gather Together in My Name** is about self-reliance, what theme would you derive from **Singin' and Swingin' and Gettin' Merry Like Christmas**?

2. What is the significance of the author discarding the nicknames "Ritie", "Sugar", and "Rita"?

3. On her travels around the world and throughout the book, what does Maya learn about prejudice and tolerance?

4. How would you characterize Guy? In what ways are he and his mother alike? How do they differ?

Author Bio

Poet, writer, performer, teacher and director Maya Angelou was raised in Stamps, Arkansas, and then moved to San Francisco. In addition to her bestselling autobiographies, beginning with I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS, she also wrote a cookbook, HALLELUJAH! THE WELCOME TABLE, and five poetry collections, including I SHALL

NOT BE MOVED and SHAKER, WHY DON'T YOU SING? She passed away on May 28, 2014 at the age of 86.

Critical Praise

"Honest, funny and heartwarming... The strength of the book is Angelou's lyrical writing... a God-given gift."

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