

Dilonna Johnson

Mrs. VanBeek

Acting & Performing

10/17/11

### Yellowman Review

*Yellowman* was a play that represented viewpoints on how African Americans saw each other. They depicted this accurately. In my society lighter skinned people are ranked higher than those who are darker. They did a good job in displaying this in the play. In the beginning of the play, Eugene the light skinned male was related to everything that any African American could ever want living in the South. Alma, the darker skinned, heavy-set woman was related to everything negative. People are so blind to the fact that these actions and beliefs still go on today.

The stage was set up so that the paths never met. Eugene and Alma were never supposed to be together. Therefore, their whole relationship was set up for failure. Even when things seemed as if they were coming together for the two of them, the paths on the stage never moved. The tar on the stage represented the hardships they both had to endure. Alma vowed to never run on a tar road for a man, and Eugene never wanted to follow the same road his father had taken. In the end, Alma held up to her end while Eugene did not. He became his father, if not worse.

The play did not end as I had anticipated. The darker skinned African American ended up being more successful than the lighter skinned one. The belief that lighter is better is still upheld in our society, but it is also evident that whoever works harder will more often than not be the one who is more successful. Alma gained the drive to be

successful as much as she wanted to breathe. Color barriers are still a huge dilemma in our society. More couples like Eugene and Alma who attempted to overcome this barrier are needed to strengthen the African American race. No man should tear another down because of their color.

---