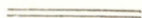




Heid. E. Tebbe  
October, 1989

PASSING

BY *NELLA LARSEN*



QUICKSAND

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# PASSING

BY

*NELLA LARSEN*

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FOR  
*Carl Van Vechten*  
AND  
*Fania Marinoff*

*One three centuries removed  
From the scenes his fathers loved,  
Spicy grove, cinnamon tree,  
What is Africa to me?*

—Countée Cullen



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PASSING

Bellew was not in the little group shivering in the small hallway. What did that mean? As she began to work it out in her numbed mind, she was shaken with another hideous trembling. Not that! Oh, not that!

“No, no!” she protested. “I’m quite certain that he didn’t. I was there, too. As close as he was. She just fell, before anybody could stop her. I—”

Her quaking knees gave way under her. She moaned and sank down, moaned again. Through the great heaviness that submerged and drowned her she was dimly conscious of strong arms lifting her up. Then everything was dark.

