

The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

Riverhead Books, 2020; 400 pages/audio 11 hours 30 minutes

"...Bennett renders her characters and their struggles with great compassion, and explores the complicated state of mind that Stella finds herself in while passing as white."

-Publishers Weekly, 3/2/2020

Summary

The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern Black community and running away at age sixteen, it's not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it's everything: their families, their communities, their racial identities. Ten years later, one sister lives with her Black daughter in the same southern town she once tried to escape. The other secretly passes for white, and her white husband knows nothing of her past. Still, even separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen to the next generation, when their own daughters' storylines intersect?

Author Information

Brit Bennett's debut novel, *The Mothers*, was a New York Times bestseller and a finalist for both the NBCC John Leonard First Novel Prize and the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize for Debut Fiction. Her second novel, *The Vanishing Half*, was an instant #1 New York Times bestseller, longlisted for the National Book Award, a finalist for the Women's Prize, and named one of the ten best books of the year by The New York Times. Bennett has been named a National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 honoree, a NAACP Image Award Finalist, and one of Time's Next 100 Influential People.

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