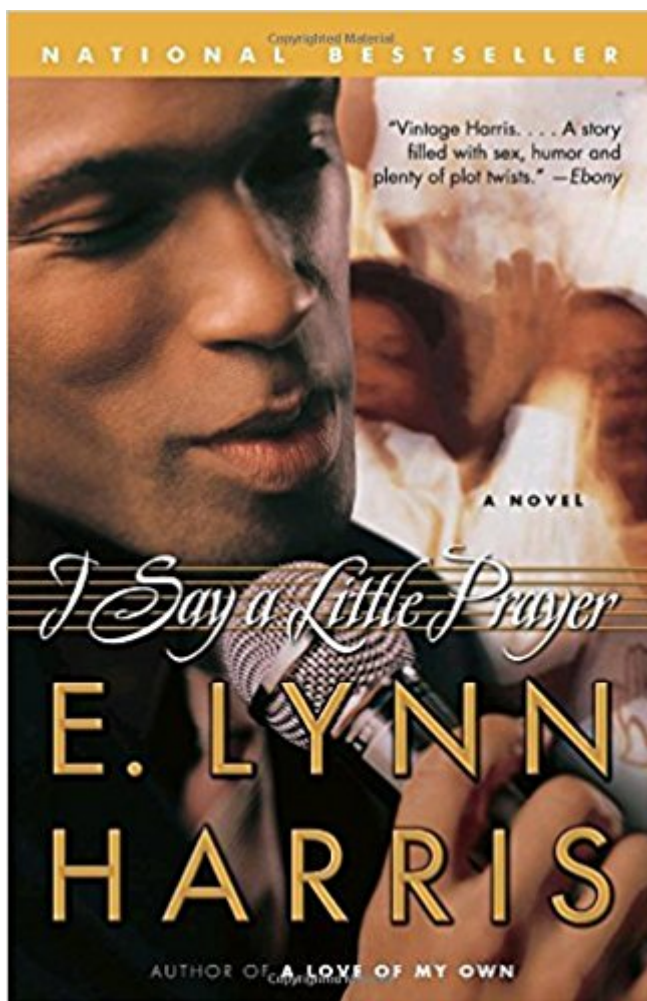


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I Say A Little Prayer



Synopsis

A USA Today, New York Times, Washington Post Bestseller Chauncey Greer, the suave and successful owner of the Cute Boy Greeting Card Company, never wants for the attention of guys just as hot as he is. After a couple of bad dates Chauncey finds himself in church, where the minister's message inspires him to return to the singing career he had launched as a teenager. Things heat up when Chauncey's rediscovered singing talent lands him in the middle of a protest over homophobia in the black church, and Chauncey's old singing partner and former lover makes a dramatic and unexpected entrance.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Harris takes a sympathetic look at the difficulty of reconciling homosexuality and faith in the black church in his lively ninth novel. Thirty-eight-year old Chauncey Greer classifies his heft sexual appetite as "basically bi with a gay leaning," but also needs a personal relationship with God. Once a member of a boy band called Reunion (his deeply felt love affair with fellow bandmate Sweet D precipitated its breakup), Chauncey now owns a successful Atlanta-based greeting card company. Chauncey is a regular at the progressive Abundant Joy Baptist Church, where Pastor Kenneth's inspired preaching reignites his dreams of a singing career. After Chauncey sings a soul-stirring solo at church, the pastor invites him to perform at an upcoming revival led by the fundamentalist Bishop Upchurch and his vindictive wife Grayson. But Chauncey's friends plan to boycott the revival because of the Upchurches' gay-bashing, and Chauncey must decide between his passion for

singing and his personal identity—a decision complicated by the reappearance of a figure from his past. Though supporting characters remain flat, Harris (*A Love of My Own*) illuminates a divide in the black church while exploring the universal theme of broken love. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Chauncey Greer operates a successful card company in Atlanta, Cute Boy Cards, with a specialty line for bisexuals and homosexuals. His relationships are casual because he can't get over his first true love and the betrayal that broke them apart. Chauncey decides to renew a dormant singing career, and his pastor asks him to debut at the church. Abundant Joy is a modest church that members fear may be on the brink of turning mega. Chauncey, like so many other members, fled Atlanta's mega-churches with their emphasis on prosperity at the expense of spirituality and decidedly anti-gay messages. When the pastor asks Chauncey to perform at an upcoming revival, Chauncey finds himself caught between the guest speaker, Bishop Upchurch, a fiery minister who is running for the U.S. Senate on an anti-gay marriage platform, and members of his church, who oppose Upchurch's message. Chauncey learns through friends the myriad paths traveled and entanglements faced by other members of Atlanta's black homosexual community; and he learns that Bishop Upchurch is a figure with his own troubled past. As Chauncey struggles with these issues, he eventually makes peace with his past. Harris, who revealed the down-low practice of ostensible heterosexuals living secret lives as gay men, now offers insight into the struggle within the black church concerning gay rights. Vanessa Bush Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I love the writing of Mr. Harris; however he must have been drunk when he penned this novel. It is really loose and filled with much sexual details that I could do without. I would prefer to use my imagination. As usually, I enjoy the gay jargon. The best and the only saving grace in this novel is the character, Skylar. Skylar saved the day. I was a little tired of reading of about how fabulous Chauncey was and how he was so unforgettable in anybody's eye site. The story was pretty predictable and I simply hated the ending. This is not one of his best work maybe because of his long absence from the scene, he had gotten a little rusty. When will any writer start to write about everyday people who struggle with a 9 to 5 and has real problems instead of those who are so untouchable and nobody that we can relate to? Leslie Taylor

Although a long time in coming, *I Say a Little Prayer* is another great novel by E. Lynn Harris. He definitely still has the magic touch when it comes to writing. This book explores the hot topic of gay acceptance and rights within the black church. *I Say a Little Prayer* will grab the reader with as much intensity as Harris' other stories. The main character, Chauncey Greer, is a multi-dimensional man with multi-dimensional problems. The conflict within him is just as strong, if not stronger, than the conflict within the church regarding the church's upcoming revival. Chauncey has some tough decisions to make and as the reader, you will be conflicted as to whether or not he is making the right choices. We even get cameo appearances from some of our beloved and not so beloved characters. *I Say a Little Prayer* is a great read. It will leave you wanting more of E. Lynn Harris.

I have always loved E. Lynn Harris' writing. This book was no disappointment. It manages to keep you captivated, and interested in each of the characters. A great read!

Because no matter what you are going through God is always there. Prayer can change all things. I would tell anyone that God is an awesome God.

Once I started reading this book I couldn't put it down. It had more twists and turns than a roller coaster. I was rooting for Chauncey especially after he found out that the man who took his virginity with men was a homophobic nut case. Grayson was truly a scary character. I found myself wanting Chauncey to slap her as hard as he could. I think this book makes a really interesting point. It seems that those who speak out the loudest against homosexuality are usually closeted homosexuals who hate who they are (Donnie McClurkin). I was happy Chauncey came out on top in the end. I was also surprised that Basil made an appearance in this book. I hope to see more of Chauncey in the future. This book is a great buy and I highly recommend it to all.

Good read.

Excellent read. I would love to see this story as a Movie. All of his book should be movies.

Excellent reading great Author.

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