

Robert Hayden



Born Asa Bundy Sheffey into a poor family, Robert Hayden's parents left him to be raised by foster parents. Due to extreme nearsightedness, Hayden turned to books rather than sports in his childhood. Some of his best-known poems can be found in his collection *A Ballad of Remembrance*. Hayden was the first African American to be appointed as Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress.