

# RICHARD WRIGHT



**Richard Wright** was a groundbreaking African American writer whose work challenged the realities of racism, poverty, and systemic oppression in the United States. His novel *Native Son (1940)*, became a national bestseller, earning the NAACP's Spingarn Medal and marking the first time a novel by a Black author was selected by the Book-of-the-Month Club.

Wright was later awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, and his autobiography *Black Boy (1945)* cemented his legacy as one of the most influential literary voices of the twentieth century.

Wright resided in Fort Greene while writing *Native Son* in the 1930s. His former residence, 175 Carlton Avenue, is marked by a plaque recognizing his literary legacy in the neighborhood.