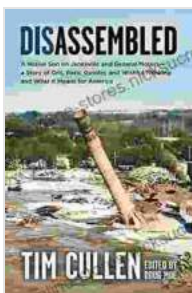


# Native Son, Janesville, and General Motors: A Story of Grit, Race, Gender, and the American Dream

Richard Wright's novel "Native Son" is a powerful exploration of race and violence in America. The novel tells the story of Bigger Thomas, a young black man who lives in a Chicago slum. Bigger is driven to violence by the racism and poverty that he experiences every day. His story is a reminder of the systemic racism that still exists in America today.



## Disassembled: A Native Son on Janesville and General Motors – a Story of Grit, Race, Gender and Wishful Thinking and What it Means for America by Leigh L. Thompson

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1487 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 204 pages  
Lending : Enabled



The city of Janesville, Wisconsin, is another reminder of the challenges that face America. In 2008, General Motors closed its plant in Janesville, costing the city thousands of jobs. The plant closure was a devastating blow to the community, and it has led to a rise in poverty and

unemployment. The story of Janesville is a reminder of the economic inequality that exists in America today.

The stories of Richard Wright and Janesville are both powerful reminders of the challenges that face America. They are stories of race, gender, and economic inequality. But they are also stories of grit and resilience. The people of Janesville are working to rebuild their community, and they are determined to overcome the challenges they face. The story of Janesville is a reminder that even in the darkest of times, there is always hope.

### **Richard Wright's "Native Son"**

Richard Wright was born in Mississippi in 1908. He grew up in poverty and experienced racism firsthand. In 1937, he published "Native Son," which was his first novel. The novel was a critical and commercial success, and it won the Pulitzer Prize. "Native Son" is considered one of the most important American novels of the 20th century.

The novel tells the story of Bigger Thomas, a young black man who lives in a Chicago slum. Bigger is driven to violence by the racism and poverty that he experiences every day. He eventually kills a white woman, and he is arrested and sentenced to death. The novel is a powerful indictment of racism and poverty, and it is still relevant today.

### **The Janesville GM Plant Closing**

In 2008, General Motors closed its plant in Janesville, Wisconsin. The plant closure was a devastating blow to the community, and it has led to a rise in poverty and unemployment. The story of Janesville is a reminder of the economic inequality that exists in America today.

The plant closure was caused by a number of factors, including the recession and the rising cost of labor. GM had been struggling for years, and the plant closure was a way to cut costs. However, the plant closure has had a devastating impact on the Janesville community. The city has lost thousands of jobs, and the unemployment rate has skyrocketed. The plant closure has also led to a decline in population and property values.

The people of Janesville are working to rebuild their community, but it is a difficult task. The city is facing a number of challenges, including poverty, unemployment, and a lack of investment. However, the people of Janesville are determined to overcome these challenges and rebuild their community.

### **Grit, Resilience, and Hope**

The stories of Richard Wright and Janesville are both powerful reminders of the challenges that face America. They are stories of race, gender, and economic inequality. But they are also stories of grit and resilience. The people of Janesville are working to rebuild their community, and they are determined to overcome the challenges they face. The story of Janesville is a reminder that even in the darkest of times, there is always hope.

The stories of Richard Wright and Janesville are also stories of the American Dream. The American Dream is the idea that anyone can achieve success in America, regardless of their background. The American Dream is a powerful ideal, and it has inspired millions of people to come to America in search of a better life. However, the American Dream is not always easy to achieve. Race, gender, and economic inequality can make it difficult for people to achieve their dreams. The stories of Richard Wright and Janesville are a reminder that the American Dream is still a work in progress.

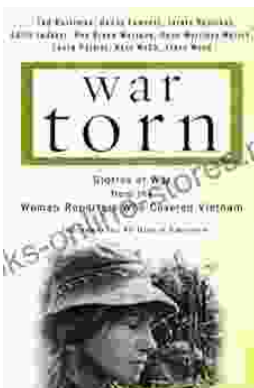
However, the stories of Richard Wright and Janesville are also stories of hope. The people of Janesville are working to rebuild their community, and they are determined to overcome the challenges they face. The story of Janesville is a reminder that even in the darkest of times, there is always hope. The American Dream is still alive, and it is still possible for anyone to achieve success in America.



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