

on his own. His aim is to keep the Harlem community under control, along his grandfather's line of control and passivity, with the use of Rinehart-like tactics.

As things heat up in Harlem the Invisible Man is thrown by circumstance into bed with a white "Brotherhood" woman named Sybil. The Invisible Man knows that she is out for her big forbidden thrill with a black man, and works his way out of the situation in a joking manner. He senses that Ras' "dregs" are upon him, but goes along with it to see if his concept of white womanhood-gone-awry is correct. Sybil has the same stereotypical conception of a black man as the men in the hotel who heard his graduation-day speech. The Invisible Man really learns little from this "reality instructor," but she does confirm what he has already learned.

The next day the riot finally breaks loose in a chaotic and unorganized manner. The anger of the Harlemites will be spent in vain, and all that will be accomplished is a worsening of the conditions that already existed. The people protest evictions and poor housing conditions by burning their homes, looting, and shooting police when they have the guns. Ras the black nationalist is out in the middle of the rioting on a big white horse in African dress, trying to avenge the grievances of the Harlem people with a spear. There are no more "reality instructions" for the invisible man as the book ends with the riot scene, except a concluding scene in which the Invisible Man gets lost in a coal hopper and does his last moralizing on the black condition and himself.

Only one lesson the Invisible Man learns from any of his "reality instructors" proves itself in the novel, and that is the first lesson that he had from his grandfather. His lesson takes on a meaning on the social level as well, and is proved in the futility of the riot