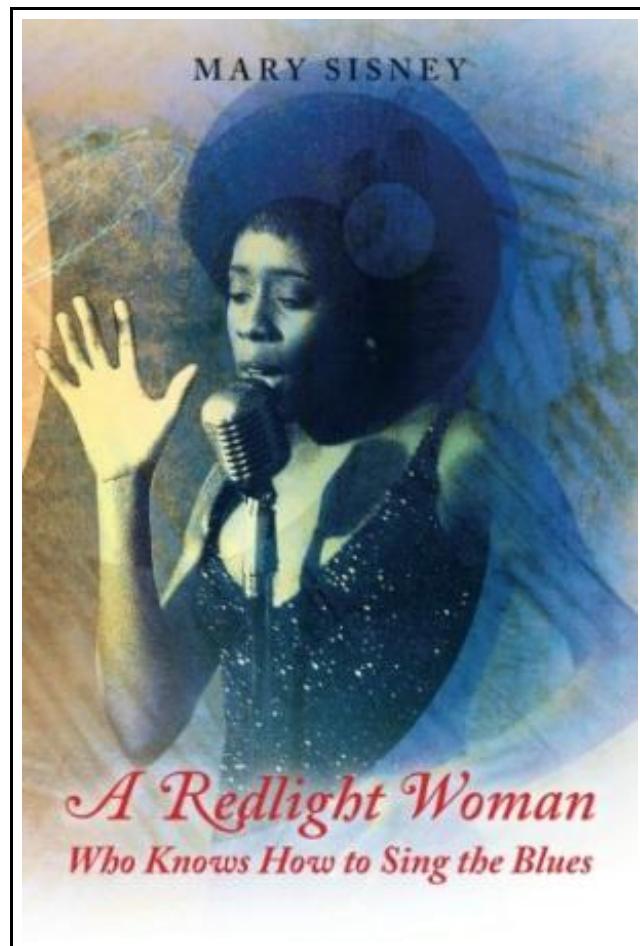


## A Redlight Woman Who Knows How to Sing the Blues: My Life in White Institutions



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## A REDLIGHT WOMAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO SING THE BLUES: MY LIFE IN WHITE INSTITUTIONS

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Createspace, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Mary Sisney's memoir loosely fits several genres: 1) The American dreamer's story of how she survived personal struggles and overcame socio-economic barriers to achieve success 2) The popular teacher's description of her classroom experiences 3) The pre-civil rights era Southern black person's story of experiences with racism 4) The nonwhite woman's narrative of experiences with institutional sexism and racism 5) The baby boomer's description of experiences with the cultural, sexual, and socio-political revolutions of the 1960s and 70s. But just as Dr. Sisney was never completely integrated into the white institutions where she studied and taught for forty-eight years, her memoir cannot be easily categorized. It is unique. Like most success stories, hers highlights the need for hard work, discipline, and determination. But she also offers some unusual explanations for her success. She gives her two weak father figures--an alcoholic father and a spendthrift stepfather--credit for making her an independent, self-sufficient woman. She also believes in the power of negative (that's right, negative) thinking and feels that her ability to complain loudly, which she calls singing the blues, has helped her overcome many of the hardships that she has faced in her life. Like most popular teachers, Sisney enjoys the company of students, has a good sense of humor, and listens as well as she talks. But she feels that one of her greatest assets as a teacher is her low sex drive, which prevents her from having sex with her students. She also feels that being a black woman in predominantly white institutions gives her a perspective that most other teachers don't have, and that perspective is...



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