



# In the Garden of Our Dreams: Memoirs of Our Marriage

By Shirlee Taylor Haizlip

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Shirlee Taylor Haizlip, bestselling author of **The Sweeter the Juice**, and her husband, Harold C. Haizlip describe, with unwavering commitment to each other, their families, and their race, what hard work, good luck, and most important, unshakable love can accomplish.

Told in their alternating voices, **In the Garden of Our Dreams** is a portrait of their nearly forty-year love affair. Born into a generation reared in segregation, Harold, the Southerner, and Shirlee, the Northerner, strove not only to marry their individual differences in reaching for common happiness, but also joined the larger struggle of their generation to achieve integration and racial equality. In this intimate and moving memoir, the couple reflects on how they defined themselves as African Americans during some of the most important years in America's struggle with issues of race, class, and equality. Uplifting and romantic, **In the Garden of Our Dreams** gives all couples hope in this time of increasing cynicism about the value of marriage and the effect each individual can have in the larger struggle against society's ills.

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## **In the Garden of Our Dreams: Memoirs of Our Marriage** By Shirlee Taylor Haizlip Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2585921 in Books
- Published on: 2000-02-15
- Released on: 2000-02-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .75" w x 5.20" l, .65 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 332 pages



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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

She was an African American princess, raised in a racially mixed Connecticut neighborhood and taught by her father "to go after whatever I thought I could do." He came from a poor section of Washington, D.C., and supported his brilliant academic career with scholarships and part-time jobs. But when they met in 1957, their shared aspirations to "uplift the race" and force white America to accept them on their own terms drew them together. Married in 1959, the Haizlips held various socially conscious jobs while experiencing the tumult of the 1960s from an unusual vantage point; when Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, Shirlee Haizlip notes, "I stopped wearing white gloves." They lived in a privileged, integrated world but never wavered in their commitment to help less fortunate black people. And their joint memoir sketches the evolution of both a marriage between very different personalities and the racial landscape in America. Pungent political awareness leavens the sentimentality of the couple's family portrait, and alternating first-person narratives give the story a "he said, she said" completeness, doing justice to two powerful individuals who quarreled but maintained an unshakeable bond. --*Wendy Smith*

#### From Library Journal

Shirlee Taylor Haizlip, author of *The Sweeter the Juice* (LJ 1/94), a family memoir about her family's mixed racial heritage, and Harold Haizlip, an educator and administrator, have written the story of their marriage. Engaging as a love story, it is also intellectually satisfying as a social history of the Fifties to the Nineties. The Haizlips met on a blind date at Harvard and enjoyed the early years of their marriage in style as part of the arty New York scene, but they arrived in the Eighties unemployed with two daughters. Fierce determination, resourcefulness, and belief in each other bring them to easier times by the book's end. Following them from New York to the Virgin Islands to New Haven to Los Angeles, we hear the story of their life passages and goals from both points of view?they take turns telling it. Marriage memoirs are rare; Madeleine L'Engle's *Two-Part Invention* (LJ 11/15/88) comes to mind, but it is written in just one voice. Inspiring in this age of divorce, and highly recommended for all libraries.?Barbara O'Hara, Free Lib. of Philadelphia  
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#### From [Booklist](#)

Penned by best-selling author Shirlee Taylor Haizlip and her husband, Harold C. Haizlip, this unique dual biography allows readers a privileged glimpse into the marriage of one of America's most prominent and influential African American couples. Told in the alternating voices of the two authors, this entrancing narrative recounts the courtship of Shirlee, a self-assured Wellesley undergrad, and Harold, a classics scholar and a Harvard graduate student. After their union in 1959, the Haizlips embarked on a remarkable marital partnership that encompassed children, careers, public service, and the seemingly eternal struggle for recognition and racial equality. During the course of their extraordinary odyssey, they endured a wide range of personal and professional triumphs and tragedies, all of which they share in warm and intimate tones with the reader. A tender love story as well as a compelling overview of the upper-and middle-class African American experience in the late twentieth century. *Margaret Flanagan*

### Users Review

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**John Solorio:**

The reserve untitled In the Garden of Our Dreams: Memoirs of Our Marriage is the reserve that recommended to you to learn. You can see the quality of the reserve content that will be shown to a person. The language that author use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The writer was did a lot of investigation when write the book, therefore the information that they share for your requirements is absolutely accurate. You also can get the e-book of In the Garden of Our Dreams: Memoirs of Our Marriage from the publisher to make you considerably more enjoy free time.

**Juan McCain:**

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**Anna Vinci:**

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**Emmett Willett:**

Reading a book to be new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to go through a book. When you learn a book you can get a great deal of benefit. When you read guides, you can improve your knowledge, mainly because book has a lot of information onto it. The information that you will get depend on what forms of book that you have read. If you wish to get information about your research, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself read a fiction books, such us novel, comics, and also soon. The In the Garden of Our Dreams: Memoirs of Our Marriage will give you a new experience in studying a book.

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