

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown

Rubyfruit Jungle by Rita Mae Brown: A Trailblazing Classic in LGBTQ+ Literature

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown is more than just a novel; it's a groundbreaking work that challenged societal norms and offered a fresh, unapologetic voice for lesbian identity in the early 1970s. Since its publication, this coming-of-age story has resonated with readers for its candid humor, bold themes, and vibrant protagonist. If you're curious about why rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown remains a beloved classic in queer literature, let's dive into the heart of the book, its significance, and what makes it stand out even decades later.

The Story Behind rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown

At its core, rubyfruit jungle is the semi-autobiographical tale of Molly Bolt, a fiercely independent and spirited young woman navigating her identity in a world that often tries to suppress it. Rita Mae Brown's novel was published in 1973, a time when LGBTQ+ themes were rarely explored openly in mainstream literature.

Plot Overview

Molly Bolt grows up as an orphan in a working-class family, grappling with her sexuality and the challenges that come with it. The narrative follows her journey from childhood to adulthood, showcasing her tenacity, wit, and refusal to conform. Along the way, Molly confronts prejudice, discrimination, and the complexities of love and self-acceptance.

Unlike many coming-of-age stories of the time, rubyfruit jungle celebrates queer identity without shame or tragedy. Instead, it's infused with humor, resilience, and a genuine zest for life.

The Significance of the Title

The term “rubyfruit jungle” itself is a playful metaphor that hints at the novel’s themes. “Rubyfruit” was a slang term for female genitalia, and the “jungle” represents the wild, untamed nature of Molly’s world and her experiences. This bold title immediately signals the book’s candid approach to lesbian identity, breaking taboos and encouraging open conversation.

Why rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown is a Literary Milestone

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown holds a special place in LGBTQ+ literary history for several reasons. It wasn’t just one of the first novels to feature a lesbian protagonist; it was among the first to do so with humor and without the tragic undertones that characterized much of queer fiction at the time.

Representation and Visibility

One of the most impactful aspects of rubyfruit jungle is how it gave visibility to lesbian characters and stories in a positive light. Molly Bolt was not a side character or a stereotype; she was a fully fleshed-out individual with dreams, flaws, and a fiery personality. This was revolutionary because it allowed readers, especially lesbian readers, to see themselves represented in literature authentically.

Breaking Stereotypes

Prior to this novel, portrayals of queer characters were often limited and laden with clichés—victims of tragedy, villains, or comedic relief. Rita Mae Brown subverted these expectations by crafting a protagonist who was confident, unapologetic, and unafraid to speak her mind. Molly’s refusal to be boxed in by societal expectations challenged readers to reconsider their assumptions about gender and sexuality.

Influence on Queer Literature

The success of *rubyfruit jungle* paved the way for more queer authors and stories to emerge in mainstream publishing. It inspired countless writers to explore themes of identity, love, and resistance with honesty and humor. The book remains a touchstone for those studying queer literature and feminist writing.

The Writing Style and Tone of *rubyfruit jungle* by rita mae brown

One of the reasons *rubyfruit jungle* by rita mae brown continues to captivate readers is its distinctive writing style. The prose is fresh, lively, and infused with a sharp wit that keeps the narrative engaging from start to finish.

Conversational and Humorous

Rita Mae Brown's writing feels like a conversation with a witty and insightful friend. The humor in the novel isn't just for comic relief; it serves as a powerful tool to address serious issues like homophobia, sexism, and class struggles in a way that's accessible and relatable.

Raw and Honest

The novel doesn't shy away from the realities of growing up queer in a hostile environment. Yet, it balances this honesty with moments of joy, love, and triumph. This blend of candor and optimism makes *rubyfruit jungle* a compelling read that resonates emotionally with a wide audience.

Vivid Characterization

Molly Bolt is a memorable protagonist because of the depth and authenticity with which she's portrayed. Rita Mae Brown's ability to capture the complexity of Molly's character—from her rebellious streak to her vulnerability—allows readers to connect deeply with her journey.

Exploring Themes in *rubyfruit jungle* by rita mae brown

The novel touches on a multitude of themes that remain relevant today, making it a rich text for discussion and analysis.

Identity and Self-Discovery

At its heart, *rubyfruit jungle* is a story about finding and embracing one's true self. Molly's journey is emblematic of the struggles many LGBTQ+ individuals face in coming to terms with their identity amidst societal pressures.

Resistance and Empowerment

Molly's refusal to conform or hide who she is embodies a spirit of resistance that resonates beyond the LGBTQ+ community. The novel celebrates empowerment through authenticity and self-acceptance.

Family and Belonging

Family dynamics play a crucial role in the story. Whether it's Molly's relationship with her adoptive

family or her chosen family within the queer community, these bonds highlight the importance of support and acceptance.

How rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown Speaks to Modern Readers

Despite being published over four decades ago, the novel's themes and messages continue to be relevant, especially in ongoing conversations about LGBTQ+ rights and representation.

A Source of Inspiration

Many readers find Molly's story inspiring because of her resilience and courage. For those grappling with their own identities, the novel offers a sense of hope and affirmation.

Educational Value

rubyfruit jungle is often included in academic curricula focused on queer studies, feminist literature, and American literature. It serves as a valuable resource for understanding the historical context of LGBTQ+ experiences and the evolution of queer narratives.

Encouraging Open Dialogue

The candidness of the novel encourages readers to engage in conversations about sexuality, gender, and societal norms. It helps break down stigma and fosters empathy.

Tips for Reading and Appreciating *rubyfruit jungle* by rita mae brown

If you're approaching this novel for the first time or revisiting it, here are some tips to enhance your experience:

- **Contextualize the Era:** Understanding the social and political climate of the 1970s can deepen your appreciation of the novel's boldness.
- **Pay Attention to Humor:** The wit is not just entertaining but also a form of resistance and commentary.
- **Reflect on Character Growth:** Notice how Molly evolves and how her experiences shape her sense of self.
- **Explore Related Works:** Reading other LGBTQ+ literature from the same period can provide a broader perspective on the genre's development.

Rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown remains a seminal work that has influenced generations of readers and writers alike. Its blend of humor, honesty, and unapologetic celebration of lesbian identity continues to inspire and challenge societal norms, making it a must-read for anyone interested in queer literature or powerful coming-of-age stories.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'Rubyfruit Jungle' by Rita Mae Brown?

The main theme of 'Rubyfruit Jungle' is the exploration of identity and self-acceptance, particularly focusing on the protagonist's journey as a lesbian woman navigating societal expectations and prejudices.

How does Rita Mae Brown address LGBTQ+ issues in 'Rubyfruit Jungle'?

'Rubyfruit Jungle' is considered a groundbreaking novel for its candid and unapologetic portrayal of a lesbian protagonist, challenging stereotypes and highlighting the struggles and resilience of the LGBTQ+ community during the 1970s.

What role does the setting play in 'Rubyfruit Jungle'?

The setting, primarily in the United States during the mid-20th century, reflects the cultural and social challenges faced by the protagonist, providing a backdrop that emphasizes themes of conformity, rebellion, and personal growth.

How is the character of Molly Bolt portrayed in 'Rubyfruit Jungle'?

Molly Bolt, the protagonist, is portrayed as a strong-willed, independent, and resilient young woman who defies traditional gender roles and societal expectations to live authentically as a lesbian.

Why is 'Rubyfruit Jungle' considered a significant work in feminist literature?

The novel is significant in feminist literature because it challenges gender norms, celebrates female empowerment, and offers a bold narrative that intersects feminist and queer perspectives, paving the way for more diverse voices in literature.

Additional Resources

Rubyfruit Jungle by Rita Mae Brown: A Groundbreaking Exploration of Identity and Liberation

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown stands as a seminal work in LGBTQ+ literature, renowned for its candid portrayal of a young woman's journey toward self-acceptance and sexual identity during a time when such themes were often marginalized. Published in 1973, this coming-of-age novel broke new ground with its unapologetic narrative and sharp wit, positioning Rita Mae Brown as a pivotal voice in feminist and queer literary circles. As a cultural artifact, *Rubyfruit Jungle* not only captures the struggles and triumphs of its protagonist but also provides insight into the socio-political landscape of the early 1970s.

An In-Depth Analysis of Rubyfruit Jungle by Rita Mae Brown

Rubyfruit Jungle is more than a simple coming-of-age story; it is a multi-layered exploration of identity, resilience, and societal norms. The novel chronicles the life of Molly Bolt, a fiercely independent and openly lesbian woman who defies conventions and confronts both external prejudice and internal conflicts. Brown's narrative style is marked by a blend of humor, defiance, and poignancy, which together create a compelling voice that resonates with readers across generations.

The novel's title itself is a metaphor—"rubyfruit jungle" refers to a slang term for female genitalia, signaling the novel's candid approach to sexuality and its refusal to shy away from taboo topics. This boldness was particularly significant given the era of its publication, when LGBTQ+ themes were rarely depicted with such frankness in mainstream literature.

Thematic Exploration: Identity and Sexuality

Central to *Rubyfruit Jungle* is the theme of self-discovery. Molly Bolt's journey is marked by her refusal to conform to heteronormative expectations and gender roles, which challenges the reader to

reconsider societal definitions of normalcy. Brown delves into the complexities of sexual identity, illustrating both the internal struggles and external discrimination faced by LGBTQ+ individuals.

The novel also explores the concept of chosen family and community. Molly's relationships, both romantic and platonic, underscore the importance of support networks in the face of adversity. This theme remains highly relevant today, as discussions around identity politics and inclusivity continue to evolve.

Character Development and Narrative Style

Molly Bolt is a vividly drawn protagonist whose rebellious spirit and sharp intellect drive the novel forward. Unlike many literary characters of the time, Molly does not seek validation through conformity but instead embraces her uniqueness. Her characterization challenges stereotypes about lesbian women, presenting a multi-dimensional figure who is both relatable and inspiring.

Rita Mae Brown's narrative voice is conversational yet incisive, employing wit and satire to critique social norms. The use of first-person perspective allows readers intimate access to Molly's thoughts and emotions, fostering empathy and understanding. This narrative approach was innovative for its time, contributing to the novel's enduring appeal.

Contextual Significance and Cultural Impact

Rubyfruit Jungle emerged during a period of significant social upheaval, including the burgeoning gay rights movement and second-wave feminism. Its publication coincided with a push for greater visibility and representation for marginalized communities. As such, the novel holds a dual role as both literature and activism.

The book's influence extends beyond its initial release; it has been cited as a foundational text in queer literature and continues to be studied in academic settings. Rubyfruit Jungle paved the way for

subsequent authors to explore LGBTQ+ themes with greater freedom and nuance.

Comparison with Contemporary Works

When compared to other LGBTQ+ novels of its era, such as Jeanette Winterson's "Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit" or Alison Bechdel's graphic memoir "Fun Home," Rubyfruit Jungle is notable for its unapologetic tone and humor. While Winterson and Bechdel also explore themes of identity, Brown's work stands out for its pioneering candidness and the boldness of its protagonist.

Moreover, Rubyfruit Jungle's blend of autobiographical elements with fictional storytelling creates a unique narrative texture. This intermingling of fact and fiction adds depth to the novel's exploration of authenticity and self-expression.

Pros and Cons of Rubyfruit Jungle by Rita Mae Brown

- **Pros:**

- Groundbreaking and candid portrayal of lesbian identity
- Strong, relatable protagonist with a dynamic voice
- Humorous and satirical narrative style that critiques social norms
- Significant cultural and historical importance within LGBTQ+ literature

- **Cons:**

- Some readers may find the language and references dated
- Plot pacing can feel uneven in certain sections due to episodic storytelling
- Explicit content may not appeal to all audiences

Legacy and Continued Relevance

Decades after its publication, *Rubyfruit Jungle* by Rita Mae Brown remains a vital work that continues to inspire new generations of readers and writers. Its unapologetic exploration of lesbian identity and feminist themes resonates in contemporary discussions about representation and inclusivity in literature. The novel's ability to blend humor with serious social critique ensures that it holds a unique place in the canon of American literature.

In academic circles, *Rubyfruit Jungle* is frequently included in courses covering gender studies, queer theory, and American literature, reflecting its enduring scholarly interest. Moreover, the novel's influence can be seen in the proliferation of diverse voices and stories in today's literary landscape.

Rubyfruit Jungle's unflinching portrayal of Molly Bolt's life and struggles invites readers to confront their own assumptions about identity and acceptance. Rita Mae Brown's work continues to challenge and expand the boundaries of storytelling, making it an essential read for anyone interested in the intersections of sexuality, culture, and social change.

Rubyfruit Jungle By Rita Mae Brown

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: *Rubyfruit Jungle* Rita Mae Brown, 1983-04 Bawdy and moving, the ultimate word-of-mouth bestseller, *Rubyfruit Jungle* is about growing up a lesbian in America--and living happily ever after. A truly incredible book.--The Boston Globe. Copyright © Libri GmbH. All rights reserved.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: Rubyfruit Jungle Rita Mae Brown, 2014-06-25 "The rare work of fiction that has changed real life . . . If you don't yet know Molly Bolt—or Rita Mae Brown, who created her—I urge you to read and thank them both."—Gloria Steinem Winner of the Lambda Literary Pioneer Award | Winner of the Lee Lynch Classic Book Award A landmark coming-of-age novel that launched the career of one of this country's most distinctive voices, *Rubyfruit Jungle* remains a transformative work more than forty years after its original publication. In bawdy, moving prose, Rita Mae Brown tells the story of Molly Bolt, the adoptive daughter of a dirt-poor Southern couple who boldly forges her own path in America. With her startling beauty and crackling wit, Molly finds that women are drawn to her wherever she goes—and she refuses to apologize for loving them back. This literary milestone continues to resonate with its message about being true to yourself and, against the odds, living happily ever after. Praise for *Rubyfruit Jungle* "Groundbreaking."—The New York Times "Powerful . . . a truly incredible book . . . I found myself laughing hysterically, then sobbing uncontrollably just moments later."—The Boston Globe "You can't fully know—or enjoy—how much the world has changed without reading this truly wonderful book."—Andrew Tobias, author of *The Best Little Boy in the World* "A crass and hilarious slice of growing up 'different,' as fun to read today as it was in 1973."—The Rumpus "Molly Bolt is a genuine descendant—genuine female descendant—of Huckleberry Finn. And Rita Mae Brown is, like Mark Twain, a serious writer who gets her messages across through laughter."—Donna E. Shalala "A trailblazing literary coup at publication . . . It was the right book at the right time."—Lee Lynch, author of *Beggar of Love*

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: Sudden Death Rita Mae Brown, 2011-05-04 Outrageous, irrepressible and endlessly entertaining, the bestselling author of *Rubyfruit Jungle* and *Bingo* spins a behind-the-scenes tale of women's professional tennis that dramatically intertwines the heart-stopping excitement of competition and the lingering heartache of intimate human bonds. Carmen Semanan loves three things passionately: tennis, money and professor Harriet Rawls. Just twenty-four, Carmen is at her peak as one of the world's top-seeded tennis champions, determined to win the coveted Grand Slam. She is protected from everything but the grueling demands of her sport by an avaricious agent and her devoted gusty Harriet. All the odds are in her favor. But there are weeds growing in her paradise patch. Carmen's veiled Latin brother, Miguel, parleys her success into a financial house of cards with deals that include smuggling, forgery, and fraud. Susan Reilly, Carmen's archrival and former lover, leaks word of Carmen's relationship with Harriet to the press--and tennis's best-kept secret is blown into a front-page scandal. From the French Open to Wimbledon, jealousies, ambitions and passions are set to explode. Now, with everything she cherishes on the line, Carmen must test the true depths of her feelings--both on and off the court.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: Rita Will Rita Mae Brown, 1999 From the author of *Rubyfruit Jungle* comes a wonderfully thoughtful, funny memoir (Publishers Weekly) filled with Brown's trademark social commentary--only this time the subject matter is herself. 8-page photo insert.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: Rubyfruit Jungle (SparkNotes Literature Guide) SparkNotes, 2014-08-12 *Rubyfruit Jungle (SparkNotes Literature Guide)* by Rita Mae Brown Making the reading experience fun! Created by Harvard students for students everywhere, SparkNotes is a new breed of study guide: smarter, better, faster. Geared to what today's students need to know, SparkNotes provides: *Chapter-by-chapter analysis *Explanations of key themes, motifs, and symbols *A review quiz and essay topics Lively and accessible, these guides are perfect for late-night

studying and writing papers

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: High Hearts Rita Mae Brown, 2011-05-18 From the celebrated author of *Rubyfruit Jungle* and *Bingo* comes a stirring novel of the Civil War, a tale of true love and mistaken identity. Brimming with colorful characters and vivid settings, *High Hearts* is Rita Mae Brown at her most ambitious and entertaining. April 12, 1861. Bright, gutsy and young, Geneva Chatfield marries Nash Hart in Albemarle County, Virginia, the same day Fort Sumter's guns fire the start of the Civil War. Five days later she loses him as Nash joins the Confederate Army. Geneva, who is known as the best rider since Light Horse Harry Lee, cuts her hair, dons a uniform, enlists as Jimmy Chatfield, then rides off to be with her beloved Nash. But sensitive Nash recoils in horror from the violence of war, while Geneva is invigorated by the chase and the fight. Can she be all the man her husband isn't? She'll sure as hell try. But there is a complication, and his name is Major Mars Vickers. This macho major, to his own shock and amazement, finds himself inexplicably attracted to the young soldier named Jimmy. And this is only the beginning of a novel that moves with sureness and grace from the ferocity of battle to the struggle on the homefront, and brings passion and sly humor to a story of dawning love. *High Hearts* is a penetrating, delightful and sweeping tale that gives fresh life to a fascinating time.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: A Study Guide for Rita Mae Brown's "Ruby Fruit Jungle" Gale, Cengage Learning, 2016-07-12 A Study Guide for Rita Mae Brown's *Ruby Fruit Jungle*, excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Novels for Students*. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Novels for Students* for all of your research needs.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: Southern Discomfort Rita Mae Brown, 1983-04-01 Only Rita Mae Brown, author of *Rubyfruit Jungle*, could have written a novel as passionately delightful as *Southern Discomfort*. Here is a witty, warm and penetrating tale of two decades in Montgomery Alabama—a world where all is not what it seems. Meet Hortensia Reedmuller Banastre, a beautiful woman entrenched on old money, white magnolia and a loveless marriage—until she meets an utterly gorgeous young prizefighter. Amid such memorable characters as Banana Mae Parker and Blue Rhonda Latrec (two first-class whores) and Reverend Linton Ray (who wears his clerical collar too tightly for anyone's good), Hortensia struggles to survive the hurricane of emotions caused by her scandalous love. How she ultimately triumphs is a touching and beautiful human drama—an intense and exuberant affair of the heart.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: Poems Rita Mae Brown, 1987

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: Claws and Effect Rita Mae Brown, 2004-03-30 **CLAWS AND EFFECT** Winter puts tiny Crozet, Virginia, in a deep freeze and everyone seems to be suffering from the winter blahs, including postmistress Mary Minor "Harry" Haristeen. So all are ripe for the juicy gossip coming out of Crozet Hospital—until the main source of that gossip turns up dead. It's not like Harry to resist a mystery, and she soon finds the hospital a hotbed of ego, jealousy, and illicit love. But it's tiger cat Mrs. Murphy, roaming the netherworld of Crozet Hospital, who sniffs out a secret that dates back to the Underground Railroad. Then Harry is attacked and a doctor is executed in cold blood. Soon only a quick-witted cat and her animal pals feline Pewter and corgi Tee Tucker stand between Harry and a coldly calculating killer with a prescription for murder.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: Alma Mater Rita Mae Brown, 2002 Victoria Vic Savedge is enjoying the perfect romance with football star Charly Harrison, until she meets and embarks on a passionate love affair with Chris, a beautiful transfer student, and is forced to make a difficult choice.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: In Her Day Rita Mae Brown, 2014-06-25 For years a lost collector's item, here is the second novel from a brilliant young author testing her literary muscle, and it's bursting at the seams with Rita Mae Brown's trademark cast of characters and crackling quips. Written immediately after her classic *Rubyfruit Jungle*, *In Her Day* takes a loving swipe at the charged political atmosphere of Greenwich Village in the early seventies. Elegant art history

professor Carole Hanratty insists brains transcend lust—until she crashes into Ilse, a revolutionary feminist flush with the arrogance of youth. Blazing with rhetoric, their romance is a sexual and ideological inferno. Ilse campaigns to get Carole to join The Movement, but forty-four-year-old Carole and her zany peers have twenty years of fight behind them and are wary of causes bogged down in talk. After all, says Carole's best friend, the real reason for a revolution is so the good things in life circulate. Her idea of subversion is hiring a Rolls-Royce to go to McDonald's. In *Her Day*, with its infectious merriment and serious underpinnings, proves that if politics is the great divider, humor is the ultimate restorative.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: *Hiss of Death* Rita Mae Brown, 2011-04-12 BONUS: This edition contains an excerpt from Rita Mae Brown's *The Big Cat Nap*. Ah, spring! The brighter days and singing birds have a way of lifting people's spirits, as well as those of their animal companions. But the season can also bring out the first blossoms of murder. As the redbuds open in Crozet, Virginia, Mary Minor "Harry" Haristeen is especially excited—until a health crisis sends her reeling into the forbidding world of hospitals and doctors, treatments and procedures. Surviving this journey will be tough, but Harry has her animal friends—and her ever-helpful husband, Fair—to support her. Others are considerably less fortunate: A promising nurse's lifeless body is discovered without a mark on her. Then another hospital employee, who had seemed in perfect health, is also found dead. There's a mystery afoot—and that's one thing Harry and her menagerie can't keep their noses out of.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: *Wish You Were Here* Rita Mae Brown, 2004-03-30 Curiosity just might be the death of Mrs. Murphy--and her human companion, Mary Minor Harry Haristeen. Small towns are like families: Everyone lives very close together. . .and everyone keeps secrets. Crozet, Virginia, is a typical small town-until its secrets explode into murder. Crozet's thirty-something post-mistress, Mary Minor Harry Haristeen, has a tiger cat (Mrs. Murphy) and a Welsh Corgi (Tucker), a pending divorce, and a bad habit of reading postcards not addressed to her. When Crozet's citizens start turning up murdered, Harry remembers that each received a card with a tombstone on the front and the message Wish you were here on the back. Intent on protecting their human friend, Mrs. Murphy and Tucker begin to scent out clues. Meanwhile, Harry is conducting her own investigation, unaware her pets are one step ahead of her. If only Mrs. Murphy could alert her somehow, Harry could uncover the culprit before the murder occurs--and before Harry finds herself on the killer's mailing list.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: *Starting from Scratch* Rita Mae Brown, 2011-05-04 From the best-selling author of *Rubyfruit Jungle* and *Bingo*, here is a writers' manual as provocative, frank, and funny as her fiction. Unlike most writers' guides, this one had as much to do with how writers live as with mastering the tools of their trade. Rita Mae Brown begins with a very personal account of her own career, from her days as a young poet who had written a novel no publisher wanted to take a chance on, right up to her recent adventures as a Hollywood screenwriter. In a sassy style that makes her outspoken advice as entertaining as it is useful, she provides straight talk about paying the rent while maintaining the energy to write; and dealing with agents, publishers, critics, and the publicity circus; about pursuing journalism, academia, or screen-writing; and about rejecting the Hemingway myth of the hard-living, hard-drinking genius. In addition Brown, a former teacher or writing, offers a serious examination of the writer's tool--language, plotting, characters, symbolism--plus exercises to sharpen the ear for dialogue, and a fascinating, annotated reading list of important works from the seventh century to the late twentieth.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: *Outfoxed* Rita Mae Brown, 2005-07-26 From the bestselling author of the landmark work *Rubyfruit Jungle* comes an engaging, original new novel that only Rita Mae Brown could have written. In the pristine world of Virginia foxhunting, hunters, horses, hounds, and foxes form a lively community of conflicting loyalties, where the thrill of the chase and the intricacies of human-animal relationships are experienced firsthand--and murder exposes a proud Southern community's unsavory secrets. . . . As Master of the prestigious Jefferson Hunt Club, Jane Arnold, known as Sister, is the most revered citizen in the Virginia Blue Ridge Mountain town where a rigid code of social conduct and deep-seated tradition carry more weight

than money. Nearing seventy, Sister now must select a joint master to ensure a smooth transition of leadership after her death. It is an honor of the highest order--and one that any serious social climber would covet like the Holy Grail. Virginian to the bone with a solid foxhunting history, Fontaine Buruss is an obvious candidate, but his penchant for philandering and squandering money has earned him a less than sparkling reputation. And not even Sister knows about his latest tawdry scandal. Then there is Crawford Howard, a Yankee in a small town where Rebel bloodlines are sacred. Still, Crawford has money--lots of it--and as Sister is well aware, maintaining a first-class hunt club is far from cheap. With the competition flaring up, Southern gentility flies out the window. Fontaine and Crawford will stop at nothing to discredit each other. Soon the entire town is pulled into a rivalry that is spiraling dangerously out of control. Even the animals have strong opinions, and only Sister is able to maintain objectivity. But when opening hunt day ends in murder, she, too, is stunned. Who was bold and skilled enough to commit murder on the field? It could only be someone who knew both the territory and the complex nature of the hunt inside out. Sister knows of three people who qualify--and only she, with the help of a few clever foxes and hounds, can lay the trap to catch the killer. A colorful foray into an intriguing world, *Outfoxed* features a captivating cast of Southerners and their unforgettable animal counterparts. Rita Mae Brown has written a masterful novel that surprises, delights, and enchants.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: *Sneaky Pie's Cookbook for Mystery Lovers* Rita Mae Brown, 2009-12-30 Favorite recipes and anecdotes from the co-author of the Mrs. Murphy Mysteries. Sneaky Pie Brown, co-author of such irresistible Mrs. Murphy mysteries as *Murder on the Prowl*, dishes up delectable fare for cats and humans alike in this unique collection of recipes spiced with witty personal anecdotes, including glimpses of life with co-author Rita Mae Brown. What do you serve when a kitty is bored with all the old standbys? Since cookbooks are written by humans for humans, Sneaky Pie Brown has produced a cookbook with appeal for fastidious felines, including such treats as Veal Kidney and Salmon Pie. Ever the thoughtful hostess, Miss Pie has also included plenty of recipes to accommodate the visiting human or finicky dog. There's Mother's Fried Chicken, Christmas Goose, Big Dog's Delight, and, of course, Mrs. Hogendobber's Orange Buns, the very thought of which makes Mrs. Murphy fans' mouths water. Throughout there are also delightfully illustrated anecdotes for those Sneaky Pie fans eager to learn more about the dashing author. She even spills the beans about what happened to Rita Mae's brand-new pickup when a neighbor came calling with his goat. For cats and cat lovers, this book combines real and tasty recipes with the same droll humor that made one reviewer declare, As feline collaborators go, you couldn't ask for better than Sneaky Pie Brown, the canny tiger cat (*The New York Times Book Review*).

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: *The Lesbian Index* Kim Emery, 2002-01-01 Adds historical and philosophical perspectives to current debates over whether lesbian identity is socially constructed or genetically based.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: *Bingo* Rita Mae Brown, 1999-07-06 In the sequel to her beloved *Six of One*, Rita Mae Brown returns with another witty tale of passion and rivalry in the small Southern town of Runnymede, Maryland. Newspaper editor Nickel Smith is scrambling to save the local paper from corporate extinction, even as she is engaged in an affair that would shock the town as much as it amazes Nickel herself. Meanwhile, her mother, Julia, and her aunt Louise, the infamous Hunsenmeir sisters, who've set the town on its ears for decades, keep an eagle eye on Nickel. No matter that she's a grown woman and that they're going on ninety; they need someone to gossip about! Not even the town's weekly bingo games can keep Louise and Julia out of trouble when Ed Tutweiler Walters, an eligible newcomer, arrives in town—and has the sisters fighting over him like schoolgirls. A telling look at the foibles of modern relationships, *Bingo* is full of wisdom about the comforts, trials, and absurdities of small-town life and especially of our own nearest and dearest.

rubyfruit jungle by rita mae brown: *Game, Set, Match* Susan Ware, 2011 Argues that Billie Jean King's 1973 defeat of male player Bobby Riggs in tennis' Battle of the Sexes match helped, along with the passage of the Title IX anti-sex discrimination act, cause a revolution in women's

sports.

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