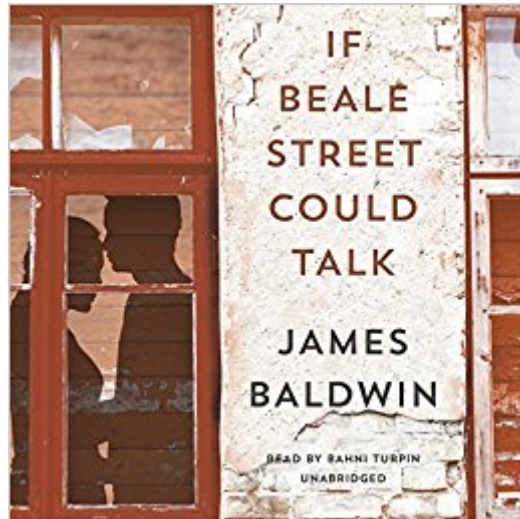




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# If Beale Street Could Talk



## Synopsis

Nineteen-year-old girl Tish and young sculptor Fonny have pledged to get married, but Fonny is falsely accused of a terrible crime and is imprisoned. Their families set out to clear his name, and as they face an uncertain future, the young lovers experience a kaleidoscope of emotions-- affection, despair, and hope. In a love story that evokes the blues, where passion and sadness are inevitably intertwined, Baldwin has created two characters so alive and profoundly realized that they are unforgettably ingrained in the American psyche.

## Book Information

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> [Authors, A-Z](#) > ( B ) > Baldwin, James #13913 in [Books > Books on CD](#) > [Literature & Fiction](#)  
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## Customer Reviews

"If Van Gogh was our 19th-century artist-saint, James Baldwin is our 20th-century one."--Michael Ondaatje"A major work of black American fiction...[His best novel yet](#), even Baldwin's most devoted readers are due to be stunned by it."--The New Republic"Emotional dynamite...[a powerful assault upon the cynicism that seems today to drain our determination to confront deep social problems](#)."--Library Journal"A moving, painful story, so vividly human and so obviously based on reality that it strikes us as timeless." --The New York Times Book Review --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Like the blues -- sweet, sad and full of truth -- this masterly work of fiction rocks us with powerful emotions. In it are anger and pain, but above all, love -- affirmative love of a woman for her man, the sustaining love of a black family. Fonny, a talented young artist, finds himself unjustly arrested and locked in New York's infamous tombs. But his girlfriend, Tish, is determined to free him, and to have

his baby, in this starkly realistic tale... a powerful indictment of American concepts of justice and punishment in our time. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Baldwin does an excellent job humanizing the displaced bodies trapped behind bars. Thought Tish and Fonny we are able to see just how the prison industrial complex attempts to destroy the will of not only those who are incarcerated but also those that love them.

Purchased this book for my grand daughter, in middle school and she emailed me how much she enjoyed it. I suggested she start a book exchange with her classmates to give others the opportunity to share books she liked and she theirs. She thought it was a great idea and implemented. Bravo to middle school readers.

Captivating, special and intimate. Baldwin is a genius. The character development is rich. I feel like I know everyone personally. The love story touches on key societal issues like race relations, prison, and family dynamics.

James Baldwin is more relevant than ever - worth reading twice. book condition was excellent and shipping was timely.

Now THIS is a good book! I first read this book when I was a pre-teen. It was very heavy reading for a pre-teen, but I'm glad I read it. I never forgot about it and I just read it again. It is just as memorable the second time around. Well written, a great read by someone from the Harlem Renaissance.

What an incredibly poignant description of the subtle and not so subtle racism (white/black, black/black) as it occurred in NYC in the 60-70s.

I am always taken to such a captivating space when I read his work. Needless to say I am a fan. Each book encourages me to read another. Sometimes the ending seem abrupt. . . But such is life.

I originally read this book in college. My book club chose it as our classic read and everyone enjoyed the story. James Baldwin weaves a wonderful story of love, family, conflict, and struggle.

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