



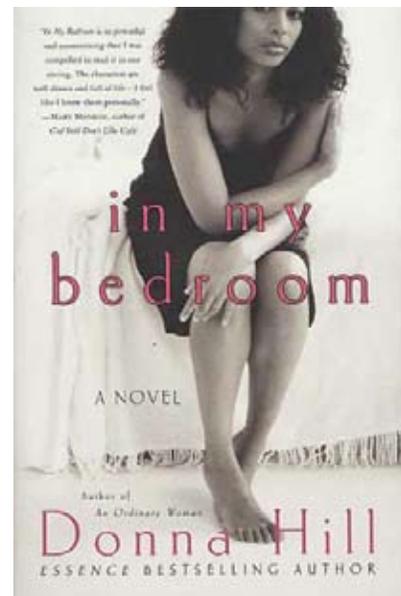
# Reading Group Gold

## In My Bedroom

by Melody Ermachild Chavis

### Introduction to *In My Bedroom*

Rayne Holland is a woman who appears to have it all: a handsome, successful husband, a beautiful five-year-old daughter, and a rapidly rising film career. What everyone doesn't realize is that behind closed doors, the picture is not so perfect. And in the recesses of Rayne's mind she harbors a dark past that even she is unaware of. Then tragedy strikes and Rayne slowly discovers that the story of her life is just beginning and nothing and no one are as they seem...



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Gayle has been Rayne's best friend for years and always secretly wished that her life was more like Rayne's, from Rayne's wonderful husband to her burgeoning success. Gayle had been the one to introduce Paul to Rayne and a small part of her still regretted the day. Although Gayle married a good man and has a good life, she can't help feeling that the grass may be greener on the other side. Out of a deep sense of guilt, Gayle tries to help Rayne along the road to recovery, even at the expense of her own marriage . . .

Pauline, Rayne's psychologist, found herself drawn to the lovely woman from the moment they met. For in Rayne, she sees parts of herself, disturbing similarities and secret pains. Faced with the most daunting case of her career, Pauline must walk the thin line of medical ethics knowing that if she saves Rayne, she may lose everything but if she takes the risk she may save herself as well and unlock the secrets that would free them all.

Told with Donna Hill's grace, wit and uncompromising honesty, this novel explores the strength, passion, hope and healing of three extraordinary women.

### Praise for *In My Bedroom*

"In My Bedroom so powerful and mesmerizing, I was compelled to read it in one sitting. The characters are well drawn and full of life. I feel as if I know them personally. . . Reading it was a true delight." -- Mary Monroe, National Bestselling author of *God Still Don't Like Ugly*

"In My Bedroom a beautifully written novel that allows you to think and feel right along with the characters. Donna Hill has penned an amazing eye-opener."---Kimberla Lawson Roby, National Bestselling author of *Too Much of a Good Thing*



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“Donna Hill not only captures the essence of storytelling, she also masters the art in yet another best-selling novel. In *My Bedroom* psychologically stimulates, while holding the reader’s attention throughout. . . This is a definite must read.”---Shunda Leigh, *Booking Matters Magazine*

## Reading Group Guide Questions

1. Rayne and Gayle considered each other friends since childhood. However with Gayle’s jealousy and Rayne’s inability to open up to her friend; exactly what was their relationship?
2. The male characters in this book represented a larger than life strength and power. But their came a time for each of the female characters to realize their own strengths; which allowed them to see the men for who they really were. . . as human. How was this represented in the story?
3. Do you think that if Edith had communicated to Rayne that she was being sent to her Aunt Mae’s home for Rayne’s own protection, as opposed to being sent due to Edith’s jealousy, that would have helped Rayne in her growth and development? Or did the (10) years spent alone with her father make it already too late?
4. It seemed that in Rayne’s case Dr. Dennis own past of incest and abuse helped her in figuring our the kind of trauma that Rayne may have experienced. Did this knowledge help Rayne of did it hinder her treatment?
5. How do you feel about Roberts’s attraction to a woman who was committed to a mental institution? Did the fact that he already knew her as a successful movie producer overshadow the fact of where she was? Was his interest appropriate? (He did make the statement to Rayne to not allow where you are define who you are)
6. The two Rayne’s fought for their place as the prominent personality, who won out and why?
7. Self worth and the feeling of safety were taken away from both Rayne and Dr. Dennis at an early age. What was the contributing factor and how were they able to find such great success in their careers when they were so insecure with who they were as women?
8. The death of Paul and Desiree, though devastating, was not the worst obstacle she had to deal with. Why did she seem at peace with their death and more afflicted with the fears of the “shadows”?
9. Amazingly Gayle was able to put her life and her marriage back together. How did Rayne’s presence help in that situation?
10. Could Paul and James be considered contributors to their wives insecurities or were they victims?



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## About the Author

Donna Hill has eighteen published novels to her credit. She is a public relations associate for the Queens Borough Public Library system, and runs a promotions and management company, ImageNouveau. She is also a writing instructor at the Frederick Douglass Creative Arts Center in New York. Donna lives with her family in Brooklyn, New York.