

















TWO TRAINS RUNNING

Memphis Lee's small restaurant is the setting of August Wilson's *Two Trains Running*. Risa, a young woman who has scarred her legs with a razor to deflect the sexual interest of men, is the restaurant's cook and waitress.

The rest of the African American cast are male and include, among others, Sterling, an unemployed young man recently released from prison; Holloway, a retired house painter; and Hambone, who is mentally retarded.



August Wilson
Born in Pittsburgh in 1945, Wilson is the father of seven children. He grew up in the Bedford Avenue neighborhood of Pittsburgh. He moved from there to New York City. His mother, re-married, moved to New York City at 16 and focused on mental jobs while her husband worked in a burgeois love of words with trips to the library.

by Kimberly Impelizzeri
by David Cooper