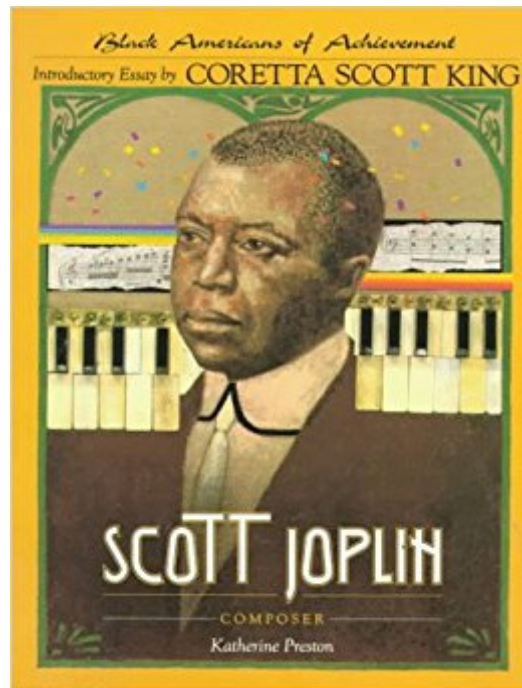


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Synopsis

Until Scott Joplin, ragtime music was regarded as low class and unrefined. His compositions--such as "Maple Leaf Rag"--helped ragtime earn national prominence in the early 1900s, but it was not until the 1970s, that Joplin was awarded posthumously the Pulitzer Prize for his opera Treemonisha.

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