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*A Raisin in the Sun* Short Essay

American novelist, critic, scholar, and writer Ralph Waldo Ellison once said, “Fate is determined by what one does and what one doesn’t do.” Author Ellison is saying that no matter the decisions we come to make in life, we are still making a choice. In other words, if you choose to do something, there are consequences. If you choose to do nothing, there are consequences. I wholeheartedly agree with the aforementioned quote, especially in terms of the recently released made-for-television movie *A Raisin in the Sun*. In the film, the character of Walter Lee Younger makes a choice that ultimately affects his entire family. Although he had good intentions by giving his dead father’s insurance money to a friend to invest in a liquor store that could potentially yield a profit, he made a choice that had dire consequences for himself and for the rest of his family. He was supposed to split the cash with his younger sister Beneatha for her medical schooling, but, instead, uses the entire amount for a supposed financial gain. Due to the fact that Walter made a choice to invest this money, his fate and his sister’s fate, according to her, was ultimately determined. It goes to show that no matter the choices we make, we are still making a choice. It is the things we do, or don’t do for that matter, that determine where we end up in life.