

Version 1

My parents raised me and my siblings with constant advice, a series of warnings meant to keep us safe.

Version 2

My parents raised me and my siblings in an armor of advice, providing alarm bells so that no one would hurt us or take away our lives.

Original

"My parents raised me and my siblings in an armor of advice, an ocean of alarm bells so someone wouldn't steal the breath from our lungs, so that they wouldn't make a memory of this skin." (par. 8)

Clint Smith. "How to Raise a Black Son in America." © 2025 TED To learn more about TED, visit TED at <http://www.ted.com>

Version 1

My parents raised me and my siblings with constant advice, a series of warnings meant to keep us safe.

Version 2

My parents raised me and my siblings in an armor of advice, providing alarm bells so that no one would hurt us or take away our lives.

Original

"My parents raised me and my siblings in an armor of advice, an ocean of alarm bells so someone wouldn't steal the breath from our lungs, so that they wouldn't make a memory of this skin." (par. 8)

Clint Smith. "How to Raise a Black Son in America." © 2025 TED To learn more about TED, visit TED at <http://www.ted.com>