

### **Author's Background**

1. Paul was born on June 27,1872 in Kentucky with his parents who were enslaved in Kentucky Paul also was an American poet who wrote many stories and poems that where in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Paul was the first black American writer in the U.S. Paul written poems that were in written in black dialect.
2. The poem the mask we wear basically explaining the hardship and the racism that they had to deal with before the civil war.

### **Time period:**

- The time period of this poem is in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century
- This time period following by the civil war.

### **Use of Literary techniques**

- ❖ The mask it illustrated the false persona of people who hide their feelings and emotions.
- ❖ Paul used a visual to put in our minds as he said that torn and bleeding hearts we smile beneath our feets.
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