Paquette 1

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**Uncle Willie’s character**

Maya Angelou’s Uncle Willie, her grandmother’s crippled son, is one of the saddest figures in the story. He is “shaped like a giant Z,” he stutters, and his face is pulled down on one side. Her grandmother says he was dropped when he was a baby. Because of his handicap, people taunt him. He is according to Angelou, “the whipping boy and butt of jokes of the underemployed and underpaid.” Although Uncle Willie seems to be resigned to his unfortunate lot in life, he is “proud and sensitive”. Maya remembers one occasion when he tried to hide his handicap from strangers, something she saw him do only once. Because of Uncle Willie’s handicap and the way in which he is treated, he seems like an outsider in the story. He works in the store, and he even disciplines the children, but his personality is not well developed.

***What would make this paragraph better?***