

## Their Eyes Were Watching God Paper Topics

The murder of a world-famous physicist raises fears that the Illuminati are operating again after centuries of silence, and religion professor Robert Langdon is called in to assist with the case.

This novel of turn-of-the-century white "Florida Crackers" marks a daring departure for the author famous for her complex accounts of black culture and heritage. Full of insights into the nature of love, attraction, faith, and loyalty, *Seraph on the Suwanee* is the compelling story of two people at once deeply in love and deeply at odds. The heroine, young Arvay Henson, is convinced she will never find true love and happiness, and defends herself from unwanted suitors by throwing hysterical fits and professing religious fervor. Arvay meets her match, however, in handsome Jim Meserve, a bright, enterprising young man who knows that Arvay is the woman for him, and refuses to allow her to convince him otherwise. With the same passion and understanding that have made *Their Eyes Were Watching God* a classic, Hurston explores the evolution of a marriage full of love but very little communication and the desires of a young woman in search of herself and her place in the world.

This compelling volume examines Zora Neale Hurston's life and writings, with a

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specific look at key ideas related to *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. Essays discuss a variety of topics, including whether the novel can be viewed as an example for all women, whether it still relevant today, and whether it proves that romantic fantasies cannot last. The book also explores contemporary perspectives on women's issues, such as the idea of women creating their own model of a female hero and the impact of white stereotypes on modern black women.

An overview of the novel features a biographical sketch of the African American author, a list of characters, a summary of the plot, and critical and analytical views of the work.

Great middle greats fiction.

Zora Neale Hurston emerged as a celebrated writer of the Harlem Renaissance, fell into obscurity toward the end of her life, yet is now recognized as a great American author. Her novel *Their Eyes Were Watching God* is popular among general readers and is widely taught in universities, colleges, and secondary schools. A key text of African American and women's literature, it has also been studied by scholars interested in the 1930s, small-town life, modernism, folklore, and regionalism, and it has been viewed through the lenses of dialect theory, critical race theory, and transnational and diasporan studies. Considering the

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ubiquity of Hurston's work in the nation's classrooms, there have been surprisingly few book-length studies of it. This volume helps instructors situate Hurston's work against the various cultures that engendered it and understand her success as short story writer, playwright, novelist, autobiographer, folklorist, and anthropologist. Part 1 outlines Hurston's publication history and the reemergence of the author on the literary scene and into public consciousness. Part 2 first concentrates on various approaches to teaching *Their Eyes*, looking at Hurston's radical politics and use of folk culture and dialect; contemporary reviews of the novel, including contrary remarks by Richard Wright; Janie's search for identity in Hurston's all-black hometown, Eatonville; and the central role of humor in the novel. The essays in part 2 then take up Hurston's other, rarely taught novels, *Jonah's Gourd Vine*, *Moses, Man of the Mountain*, and *Seraph on the Suwanee*. Also examined here are Hurston's anthropological works, chief among them *Mules and Men*, a staple for many years on American folklore syllabi, and *Tell My Horse*, newly reconsidered in Caribbean and postcolonial studies.

Students respond to *Their Eyes Were Watching God* through writing. Various writing prompts, which require students to make connections, are provided. Narrative, argument, and informative/explanatory prompts are included.

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"An introduction to Zora Neale Hurston's novel *Their eyes were watching God* for high school students, which includes biographical background on the author, explanations of various literary devices and techniques, and literary criticism for the novice reader"--Provided by publisher.

For teachers We know that the Common Core State Standards are encouraging you to reevaluate the books that you assign to your students. To help you decide which books are right for your classroom, each free ebook in this series contains a Common Core–aligned teaching guide and a sample chapter. This free teaching guide for *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston is designed to help you put the new Common Core State Standards into practice.

"A deeply soulful novel that comprehends love and cruelty, and separates the big people from the small of heart, without ever losing sympathy for those unfortunates who don't know how to live properly."—Zadie Smith One of the most important and enduring books of the 20th century, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* brings to life a Southern love story with the wit and pathos found only in the writing of Zora Neale Hurston. Out of print for almost thirty years—due largely to initial audiences' rejection of its strong black female protagonist—Hurston's classic has since its 1978 reissue become perhaps the most widely read and highly acclaimed novel in the canon of African-American literature.

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Voted America's Best-Loved Novel in PBS's The Great American Read Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning masterwork of honor and injustice in the deep South—and the heroism of one man in the face of blind and violent hatred One of the most cherished stories of all time, *To Kill a Mockingbird* has been translated into more than forty languages, sold more than forty million copies worldwide, served as the basis for an enormously popular motion picture, and was voted one of the best novels of the twentieth century by librarians across the country. A gripping, heart-wrenching, and wholly remarkable tale of coming-of-age in a South poisoned by virulent prejudice, it views a world of great beauty and savage inequities through the eyes of a young girl, as her father—a crusading local lawyer—risks everything to defend a black man unjustly accused of a terrible crime.

Zelie Adebola remembers when the soil of Or sha hummed with magic. Burners ignited flames, Tidlers beckoned waves, and Zelie s Reaper mother summoned forth souls. But everything changed the night magic disappeared. Under the orders of a ruthless king, maji were killed, leaving Zelie without a mother and her people without hope.

A Study Guide for Zora Neale Hurston's "Their Eyes Were Watching God," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Novels for Students*. This concise study guide

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includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Novels for Students* for all of your research needs.

One of the most important works of twentieth-century American literature, Zora Neale Hurston's beloved 1937 classic, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, is an enduring Southern love story sparkling with wit, beauty, and heartfelt wisdom. Told in the captivating voice of a woman who refuses to live in sorrow, bitterness, fear, or foolish romantic dreams, it is the story of fair-skinned, fiercely independent Janie Crawford, and her evolving selfhood through three marriages and a life marked by poverty, trials, and purpose. A true literary wonder, Hurston's masterwork remains as relevant and affecting today as when it was first published -- perhaps the most widely read and highly regarded novel in the entire canon of African American literature.

In 1967, after a session with a psychiatrist she'd never seen before, eighteen-year-old Susanna Kaysen was put in a taxi and sent to McLean Hospital. She spent most of the next two years in the ward for teenage girls in a psychiatric hospital as renowned for its famous clientele—Sylvia Plath, Robert Lowell, James Taylor, and Ray Charles—as for its progressive methods of treating those who could afford its sanctuary. Kaysen's memoir encompasses horror and razor-

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edged perception while providing vivid portraits of her fellow patients and their keepers. It is a brilliant evocation of a "parallel universe" set within the kaleidoscopically shifting landscape of the late sixties. *Girl, Interrupted* is a clear-sighted, unflinching document that gives lasting and specific dimension to our definitions of sane and insane, mental illness and recovery.

Fair and long-legged, independent and articulate, Janie Crawford sets out to be her own person -- no mean feat for a black woman in the '30s. Janie's quest for identity takes her through three marriages and into a journey back to her roots. One of the most important essays about the African-American experience in the United States is Zora Neale Hurston's *How It Feels To Be Colored Me*, originally published in *The World Tomorrow* in May 1928. Hurston's was an original voice in the first half of the 20th century. As she reflects on her early childhood in an all-black Florida town, and her first experiences in later life feeling "different," Hurston largely focuses on the similarities we all share and on her own self-respect and identity. "Through it all, I remain myself." This short work is part of Applewood's "American Roots" series, tactile mementoes of American passions by some of America's most famous writers and thinkers.

Zora Neale Hurston wrote her most famous novel, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, while in Haiti on a trip funded by a Guggenheim fellowship to research the region's transatlantic folk

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and religious culture; this work grounded what would become her ethnography *Tell My Horse: Voodoo and Life in Haiti and Jamaica*. The essays in *Zora Neale Hurston, Haiti, and "Their Eyes Were Watching God"* persuasively demonstrate that Hurston's study of Haitian Voudoun informed the characterization, plotting, symbolism, and theme of her novel. Much in the way that Voudoun and its North American derivative Voodoo are syncretic religions, Hurston's fiction enacts a syncretic, performative practice of reference, freely drawing upon Greco-Roman, Judeo-Christian, and Haitian Voudoun mythologies for its political, aesthetic, and philosophical underpinnings. *Zora Neale Hurston, Haiti, and "Their Eyes Were Watching God"* connects Hurston's work more firmly to the cultural and religious flows of the African diaspora and to the literary practice by twentieth-century American writers of subscribing in their fictional texts symbols and beliefs drawn from West and Central African religions.

\* *Zora Neale Hurston's* masterpiece is perhaps the most widely read and highly regarded novel in the entire canon of African American literature.

"Belongs in the category ... of enduring American literature." -- Saturday Review Fair and long-legged, independent and articulate, Janie Crawford sets out to be her own person -- no mean feat for a black woman in the '30s. Janie's quest for identity takes her through three marriages and into a journey back to her roots.

A rich sourcebook of materials on African-American folk culture, history, and society that illuminates the novel.

The rediscovery of Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, first published in 1937 but subsequently out-of-print for decades, marks one of the most dramatic chapters in African-American literature and Women's Studies. Its popularity owes much to the lyricism of

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the prose, the pitch-perfect rendition of black vernacular English, and the memorable characters--most notably, Janie Crawford. Collecting the most widely cited and influential essays published on Hurston's classic novel over the last quarter century, this Casebook presents contesting viewpoints by Hazel Carby, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Barbara Johnson, Carla Kaplan, Daphne Lamothe, Mary Helen Washington, and Sherley Anne Williams. The volume also includes a statement Hurston submitted to a reference book on twentieth-century authors in 1942. As it records the major debates the novel has sparked on issues of language and identity, feminism and racial politics, A Casebook charts new directions for future critics and affirms the classic status of the novel.

An analysis of the literary values of Hurston's novel, as well as its reception--from largely dismissive reviews in 1937, through a revival of interest in the 1960s and its recent establishment as a major American novel.

Presents a guide to reading and understanding Zora Neale Hurston's "Their Eyes Were Watching God," featuring a profile of the author, historical background on the story, a list of characters, a summary of the novel, and chapter analyses and summaries, with study questions and answers, as well as suggested essay topics.

Seminar paper from the year 2007 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,0, Hawai'i Pacific University, course: 20th Century Women Writers of Color, language: English, comment: 31 Seiten mit doppeltem Zeilenabstand., abstract: Nora Zeale Hurston's novel "Their Eyes Were Watching God" can be considered "one of the sexiest, most 'healthily' rendered heterosexual love stories in our literature" (Walker, "Zora Neale Hurston" 88). This paper provides information about the outer contexts of the novel, as well as inductive

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analyses of the novel. The first part of the paper (Ch. 2-5) reveals information about the author and the historical and literary context of the time in which Hurston's novel was published. The second part of the paper (Ch. 6-7) starts off with an analysis of the plot and characters of *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, and then focuses on the theme of Otherness as it occurs in Hurston's novel. The examinations of the concept of "Otherness," alongside with other terms such as "Dichotomization" and "Stigma," will be based on the concepts that Rosenblum and Travis describe in their work *The Meaning of Difference: American Constructions of Race, Sex and Gender, Social Class and Sexual Orientation*.

The original CliffsNotes study guides offer expert commentary on major themes, plots, characters, literary devices, and historical background. The latest generation of titles in this series also feature glossaries and visual elements that complement the classic, familiar format. In *CliffsNotes on Their Eyes Were Watching God*, you discover the work of one of the 20th century's first African-American female authors—Zora Neale Hurston. In the novel, Janie Crawford returns to her hometown in Florida and relates to her friend Pheoby the tragic story of her 40-year search for love and respect. Chapter summaries and commentaries take you through Janie's journey, and critical essays give you insight into the novel's themes and structure, as well as Hurston's use of figurative language and dialect. Other features that help you study include Character analyses of the main characters A character map that graphically illustrates the relationships among the characters A section on the life and background of Zora Neale Hurston A review section that tests your knowledge A Resource Center full of books, articles, films, and Internet sites Classic literature or modern-day treasure—you'll understand it all with expert information and insight from CliffsNotes study guides.

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“ I mean to live and die by my own mind,” Zora Neale Hurston told the writer Countee Cullen. Arriving in Harlem in 1925 with little more than a dollar to her name, Hurston rose to become one of the central figures of the Harlem Renaissance, only to die in obscurity. Not until the 1970s was she rediscovered by Alice Walker and other admirers. Although Hurston has entered the pantheon as one of the most influential American writers of the 20th century, the true nature of her personality has proven elusive. Now, a brilliant, complicated and utterly arresting woman emerges from this landmark book. Carla Kaplan, a noted Hurston scholar, has found hundreds of revealing, previously unpublished letters for this definitive collection; she also provides extensive and illuminating commentary on Hurston’s life and work, as well as an annotated glossary of the organizations and personalities that were important to it. From her enrollment at Baltimore’s Morgan Academy in 1917, to correspondence with Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, Langston Hughes, Dorothy West and Alain Locke, to a final query letter to her publishers in 1959, Hurston’s spirited correspondence offers an invaluable portrait of a remarkable, irrepressible talent.

Studienarbeit aus dem Jahr 2005 im Fachbereich Amerikanistik - Literatur, Freie Universität Berlin, Sprache: Deutsch, Abstract: Their Eyes Were Watching God is the story of a woman's life. Protagonist Janie recapitulates her way from youth to her forties and shows the growing-up of a woman in the search for love. On the sideways Zora Neale Hurston points out the life of African-American people and their problems on the turn of the twentieth century until the 1930s. The objective of this paper is to point out the main conflicts and metaphorical images used in the book. As the novel is to some extent a biography of a woman's way to love the first to mention is the eternal conflict between men and women. Like a painter Hurston draws the

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traditional roles of the sexes and the contradictions of her time - a time of feminine emancipation in all aspects. Emancipation also plays a role in the obvious generation conflict personated in Nanny, Janies grandmother. Somehow incidental, but flashing now and then, and sharp in her observations Hurston works up the racial issue of black and white living together in the American society around 60 years after slavery has officially ended. These are the more general conflicts of the book, while within the story opens the conflict within the black community. A subtle comparison of the life in Eatonville and the Everglades - inseparable of course from the totally differing feelings of Janie in both places. In the course of the novel Hurston uses strong, picturesque metaphorical language to describe the inner world of Janies thoughts and feelings. This paper can only give a few examples for these images. The tree image stands for her love life and sexuality - first in bloom when she becomes a woman. The mule stands as a symbol for the submission of women through men."

When Janie Starks returns home, the small Black community buzzes with gossip about the outcome of her affair with a younger man

The perfect companion to Zora Neale Hurston's "Their Eyes Were Watching God," this study guide contains a chapter by chapter analysis of the book, a summary of the plot, and a guide to major characters and themes. BookCap Study Guides do not contain text from the actual book, and are not meant to be purchased as alternatives to reading the book. We all need refreshers every now and then. Whether you are a student trying to cram for that big final, or someone just trying to understand a book more, BookCaps can help. We are a small, but growing company, and are adding titles every month.

These leveled discussion questions about Their Eyes Were Watching God require students to

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read closely, make connections, and share their analyses. Included are leveled comprehension questions and suggested answers.

When Janie Starks returns to her rural Florida home, she reminisces to her best friend, Pheoby, about her marriages and her relationship with a younger man. Reissue. 25,000 first printing.

First published in 1937, this is Hurston's most highly acclaimed novel, a luminous and haunting story about Janie Crawford, a Southern black woman in the 1930s whose journey from a free-spirited girl to a woman of independence and substance, continues to inspire the next generation.

LIES AND OTHER TALL TALES These tales are so tall they touch the sky! From Caldecott Honor artist Christopher Myers and Zora Neale Hurston. While traveling in the Gulf States in the 1930s, Zora Neale Hurston collected and recorded some real whoppers told by folks from all walks of life. Not "dog ate my homework" kind of lies, but tales so wild you didn't ever want to hear the truth. And now today's picture-book readers can enjoy these far-fetched fibs, with Caldecott Honor artist Christopher Myers's spirited adaption and bold, expressive collages. Their Eyes Were Watching God is a 1937 novel by African-American writer Zora Neale Hurston. It is considered a classic of the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s, and it is likely Hurston's best known work.

SuperSummary, a modern alternative to SparkNotes and CliffsNotes, offers high-quality study guides for challenging works of literature. This 56-page guide for "Their Eyes Were Watching God" by Zora Neale Hurston includes detailed chapter summaries and analysis covering 20 chapters, as well as several more in-depth sections of expert-written literary analysis. Featured

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content includes commentary on major characters, 25 important quotes, essay topics, and key themes like The Long Harlem Renaissance and African-American Women and Identity.

A PBS Great American Read Top 100 Pick “A deeply soulful novel that comprehends love and cruelty, and separates the big people from the small of heart, without ever losing sympathy for those unfortunates who don’t know how to live properly.” —Zadie Smith One of the most important and enduring books of the twentieth century, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* brings to life a Southern love story with the wit and pathos found only in the writing of Zora Neale Hurston. Out of print for almost thirty years—due largely to initial audiences’ rejection of its strong black female protagonist—Hurston’s classic has since its 1978 reissue become perhaps the most widely read and highly acclaimed novel in the canon of African-American literature.

This instructional guide encourages students to explore and analyze this classic novel through lessons that are fun and challenging. With various methods for assessing comprehension, this invaluable classroom resource offers strategies for cross-curricular activities as students build an in-depth understanding of complex literature. Text-dependent questions help students analyze the book by using higher-order thinking skills, and activities require students to use textual evidence as they revisit passages for deeper critical analysis. Through close reading and text-based vocabulary practice, this tool will guide teachers in a rich and deep exploration of the text with ways to add rigor with complex literature.

In the tradition of Zadie Smith and Marlon James, a brilliant Caribbean writer delivers a powerful story about four people each desperate to escape their legacy of violence in a so-called “paradise.” In *Baxter’s Beach*, Barbados, Lala’s grandmother Wilma tells the story of the one-armed sister. It’s a cautionary tale, about what happens to girls who disobey their

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mothers and go into the Baxter's Tunnels. When she's grown, Lala lives on the beach with her husband, Adan, a petty criminal with endless charisma whose thwarted burglary of one of the beach mansions sets off a chain of events with terrible consequences. A gunshot no one was meant to witness. A new mother whose baby is found lifeless on the beach. A woman torn between two worlds and incapacitated by grief. And two men driven into the Tunnels by desperation and greed who attempt a crime that will risk their freedom – and their lives. How the One-Armed Sister Sweeps Her House is an intimate and visceral portrayal of interconnected lives, across race and class, in a rapidly changing resort town, told by an astonishing new author of literary fiction. One of 2021's Most Anticipated New Fiction The Millions \* Lit Hub \* O Magazine \* Elle.com \* Entertainment Weekly \* Minneapolis Star-Tribune \* Bustle

Unlock the more straightforward side of Their Eyes Were Watching God with this concise and insightful summary and analysis! This engaging summary presents an analysis of Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston, which follows the beautiful, intelligent Janie as she attempts to find love and freedom in the Southern USA of the early 20th century. Her first two marriages, to the much older and determinedly unromantic Logan Killicks and the ambitious but self-centred and hyper-critical Joe Starks, both fail to bring her happiness. It is not until she meets Tea Cake, a much younger man with little money to his name, that she finally finds true love with a man who cares about and truly values her. Zora Neale Hurston was one of the most significant African-American writers of the 20th century, and her writing has inspired numerous later authors, including Alice Walker and Toni Morrison. Find out everything you need to know about Their Eyes Were Watching God in a fraction of the time!

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This in-depth and informative reading guide brings you: • A complete plot summary • Character studies • Key themes and symbols • Questions for further reflection Why choose BrightSummaries.com? Available in print and digital format, our publications are designed to accompany you on your reading journey. The clear and concise style makes for easy understanding, providing the perfect opportunity to improve your literary knowledge in no time. See the very best of literature in a whole new light with BrightSummaries.com!

Do you dare to cross paths with ... An enchantress who can slip in and out of her skin, A man more evil than the devil, A skull who talks back, A pair of creepy feet that can walk on their own? Spooky, chilling, and fantastical, this collection of six scary tales will send shivers up your spine! The stories in the skull talks back have been selected from Every Tongue Got To Confess, Zora Neale Hurston's third volume of folklore. Through Joyce Carol Thomas's carefully adapted text and Leonard Jenkins's arresting illustrations, the soulful, fanciful imaginations of ordinary folk will reach readers of all ages.

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