

Due at least 30 minutes before class on Friday, February 7.



Credit this photo: State Archives of Florida, *Florida Memory*, <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/107444>

Gabriel Brown playing guitar as Rochelle French and Zora Neale Hurston listen—Eatonville, Florida (1935). "Hurston worked for the WPA, collecting folklife and folklore from Floridians throughout the state. She is pictured here collecting music from French and Brown."

http://www.floridamemory.com/OnlineClassroom/zora_hurston/

Following Alice Walker's publication of "[Looking for Zora](#)" (1975), Mary Helen Washington remembers Walker's "defense of Janie's choice (actually Hurston's choice) to be silent in the crucial places in the novel" during a panel at the MLA convention in 1979 that "for me [Washington] truly marked the beginning of the third wave of critical attention to *Their Eyes*" (Washington xii, xi). Listening and asking informed questions were vital to Hurston's research as an anthropologist,

as the photograph above in Florida from the year before she finished *Their Eyes Were Watching God* captures. (You can listen to some of Hurston's recordings from this time period here:

http://www.floridamemory.com/onlineclassroom/zora_hurston/documents/audio/ You can also see Carla Kaplan's article on T-Square, "Zora Neale Hurston, folk performance, and the 'Margarine Negro,'" for further consideration of Hurston's anthropological work.)

In your second blog posting, assert an argument regarding Janie's decision to remain silent during at least one moment in chapters 5-13. Analyze at least two quotations to demonstrate the way that silence operates in the instance or instances you have selected. What are the ramifications of Janie's silence? What words does Hurston use to convey the lack of sound and its impact? Why are they significant? What is the relationship of the instance you have selected to Janie's development as a character and the strength she attains, particularly in her voice, throughout the novel?

Your blog posting must be at least 250 words. You must also include **one image or form of media** (such as a link to an audio or video recording that captures a thematic idea or an aspect that you engage in the blog posting. For instance, this is John Cage discussing silence <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pcHnL7aS64Y>. His 4'33" is a silent musical composition. See here <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zY7UK-6aaNA>. You must also address the connection between the image (or form of media) and your analysis of Hurston's novel in your blog posting. Make sure to cite the source of your image (or form of media).

You must include a list of works cited at the end of your blog posting acknowledging all sources you have consulted, including webpages. See [WOVENText](#) for a guide to MLA format for works cited entries. When returning to WOVENText, you should review Section 37b, "Working With Quotations," Section 42b, "In-Text Citations," and Section 39, "Acknowledging Sources and Avoiding Plagiarism." You must use your own words and cite all sources appropriately in all of your work this term.

Work Cited

Washington, Mary Helen. Foreword to Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. 1937. New York: Harper & Row, 1990.