



Digital Lectures Series: *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, © July 2012  
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# PRESTWICK HOUSE Digital Lecture Series



**Their Eyes Were Watching God**  
by Zora Neale Hurston

**Note to the Teacher (1 slide)**

**Objectives (8 slides)**

**Literary Terms (12 slides)**

**The Author and Her Works (17 slides)**

**The Evolution of Janie's Understanding of Herself (11 slides)**

**Motifs (5 slides)**

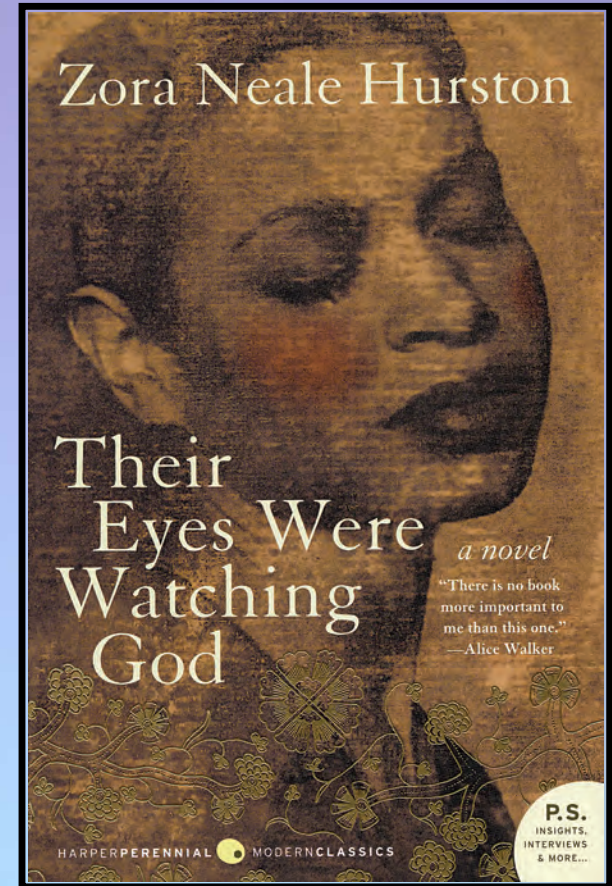


# Objectives



*This unit on Their Eyes Were Watching God will help you:*

- ➔ Determine whether incidents in Zora Neale Hurston's life are reflected in the book
  
- ➔ Become familiar with Hurston's style and the narrative structure she uses



*This unit on Their Eyes Were Watching God will help you:*

- Analyze some of Hurston's ideas on race, gender, poverty, love, and power
- Understand some of Hurston's symbolism
- Follow Janie's changing feelings about her husbands and herself



*This unit on Their Eyes Were Watching God will help you:*

- Place the book in its proper historical timeframe
  
- See how the dialect in the book caused a backlash from others in the Harlem Renaissance



# Literary Terms



***Metaphor*** – a comparison of two things that are basically dissimilar in which one is described in terms of the other.

Ex. Janie's growth into adulthood begins with the metaphor of the pear tree, the blossoms, and the bees. She sees herself as a blossom awaiting pollination.





In what ways does Hurston associate women with mules?

Nanny says, “De nigger woman is de mule uh de world so fur as Ah can see.”



In what ways does Hurston associate women with mules?

Logan Killicks wants Janie to work like a mule. He even speaks to her as he would to a mule: “Get uh move on yuh, and dat quick.”

