Their Eyes Were Watching God

BY ZORA NEALE HURSTON

SUMMER READING LOG

Ships at a distance have every man's wish on board.
For some they come in with the tide.
For others they sail forever on the horizon."

— JANIE CRAWFORD

NAME: _____

BOOK #: _____

✍️ Student Instructions: Summer Reading Log

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

📌 Purpose

This assignment is designed to help you **read actively**, not passively.
You are not just reading to finish a book—you are tracking how Janie grows, changes, and finds her voice. This work will prepare you for AP-level thinking and writing when we return.

⚠️ Non-Negotiable Expectation

👉 **ALL work must be handwritten.**

- No typed responses
- No copy/paste
- No digital submissions

Even if you use outside help to understand something, you must **process it in your own words, by hand**.

📓 How the Reading Log Works

You will complete **one reading log for each section of the novel**.

Each log has four parts. Every part matters.

🧩 Part 1: Plot Snapshot (4–5 sentences)

What you do:

- Summarize what happens in that section of the book

What this is NOT:

- Not one sentence
- Not vague ("stuff happens")
- Not copied from the internet

👉 **Goal:** Show you actually read and understand the events.

🔍 Part 2: Literary Focus

You will choose ONE of the following:

- Symbolism
- Characterization
- Setting
- Narrative Voice
- Conflict
- Figurative Language

What you do:

- Identify how that element is working in this section
- Explain it in 3–4 sentences

👉 Example thinking:

- What does the pear tree represent?
- How is Janie being characterized?
- How does the setting affect the mood or action?

👉 **Goal:** Move beyond "what happened" to **how the writing works**.

📖 Part 3: Quote + Page Number

What you do:

- Choose one meaningful quote from the section
- Include the correct page number

What makes a good quote:

- Reveals something about Janie
- Connects to identity, voice, or relationships
- Is not random or overly short

👉 **Goal:** Practice using textual evidence like you will on the AP exam.

🧠 Part 4: Analysis (5–6 sentences)

This is the most important part.

What you do:

- Explain what this section reveals about **Janie's development**
- Connect it to:
  - voice
  - identity
  - independence
  - love

👉 Push your thinking:

- How is she changing?
- What is shaping her?
- Is she gaining or losing control of her life?

👉 **Goal:** Show real thinking—not surface-level answers.

📚 General Expectations

- Write neatly and legibly
- Use complete sentences
- Be specific (avoid vague language)
- Follow directions exactly

🚫 What Will Not Earn Credit

- Typed or printed responses
- Copied or overly generic answers
- Missing sections of the book
- Minimal effort responses

🎯 Final Thought

This is not busywork.

This is practice for thinking on your own—
the kind of thinking you'll need when it's just you, a pen, and a prompt.

Read it. Track it. Think about it.

AP Literature Summer Reading Log
Their Eyes Were Watching God

Name: _____ Book #: _____

Section 1: The Dream Begins (Chapters 1–4)

1. Plot Snapshot (4–5 sentences):

_____

_____

_____

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_____

2. Literary Focus (circle one):

Symbolism | Characterization | Setting | Narrative Voice | Conflict | Figurative Language

Explanation (3–4 sentences):

_____

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3. Quote + Page Number:

"_____" (Page _____)

4. Analysis (5–6 sentences):

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Section 2: Love as Obligation (Chapters 5–7)

1. Plot Snapshot (4–5 sentences):

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2. Literary Focus (circle one):

Symbolism | Characterization | Setting | Narrative Voice | Conflict | Figurative Language

Explanation (3–4 sentences):

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3. Quote + Page Number:

"_____" (Page _____)

4. Analysis (5–6 sentences):

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Section 3: Breaking the Silence (Chapters 8–9)

1. Plot Snapshot (4–5 sentences):

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2. Literary Focus (circle one):

Symbolism | Characterization | Setting | Narrative Voice | Conflict | Figurative Language

Explanation (3–4 sentences):

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3. Quote + Page Number:

"_____" (Page _____)

4. Analysis (5–6 sentences):

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Section 4: Love as Possibility (Chapters 10–13)

11. Plot Snapshot (4–5 sentences):

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2. Literary Focus (circle one):

Symbolism | Characterization | Setting | Narrative Voice | Conflict | Figurative Language

Explanation (3–4 sentences):

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3. Quote + Page Number:

"_____" (Page _____)

4. Analysis (5–6 sentences):

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Section 5: Love in the Real World (Chapters 14–18)

1. Plot Snapshot (4–5 sentences):

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2. Literary Focus (circle one):

Symbolism | Characterization | Setting | Narrative Voice | Conflict | Figurative Language

Explanation (3–4 sentences):

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3. Quote + Page Number:

"_____" (Page _____)

4. Analysis (5–6 sentences):

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Section 6: Return & Reflection (Chapters 19–20)

1. Plot Snapshot (4–5 sentences):

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2. Literary Focus (circle one):

Symbolism | Characterization | Setting | Narrative Voice | Conflict | Figurative Language

Explanation (3–4 sentences):

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3. Quote + Page Number:

"_____" (Page _____)

4. Analysis (5–6 sentences):

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