

Graphic Organizer

Grief Reactions in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*

Essay Prompt:

Consider this quote from *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston:

“Two things everybody's got tuh do fuh theyselves. They got tuh go tuh God, and they got tuh find out about livin' fuh theyselves.”

The first part explains that Janie knows everyone is going to die and ‘go to God’, which is a simple statement. But the second part is more complex, and suggests that everyone needs to find out *how to live for themselves*. What does Janie mean by this? Explain how Janie’s experiences with death and grief taught her to live for herself. Use quotations from the novel to support your responses, and cite examples in proper MLA format.

Graphic Organizer:

Focus Question: How does Janie find out about living for herself by experiencing the death of loved ones?

Grief Reactions	Quotes	Explanation
<p>Social--how does it change how we interact with people we know and people we don't know? How are social occasions different?</p>	<p><i>Social reaction to grief when her grandma dies, leaves her first husband (pg. 24)</i></p>	<p><i>Janie only stayed with her first husband, Logan Killicks, because her grandmother insisted she marry him, even though he was much older than her. When her grandma died, Janie felt free to change her social status, and ran off to marry a man she actually liked. In this way, Janie was 'learning about living', because death brought her the freedom she needed to make her own choices about her life.</i></p>
<p>Social--how does it change how we interact with people we know and people we don't know? How are social occasions different?</p>		

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Grief Reactions	Quotes	Explanation
Physical reactions--sick to stomach, sleep all the time, change the way you dress/look		
Emotional --variety of emotions from loneliness to anger, sadness---often also relief.		
Spiritual --how do our grief reactions effect our relationship with a larger power? Is there a god--why do I exist? Purpose for life?		