

Cut Line



NATIONALITY

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PREVIEW

ZORA

HURC

PREVIEW



PRAISED FOR

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PREVIEW



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NEALE

PREVIEW

QUOTE



STON

PREVIEW

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE



EDUCATION
& CAREER

PREVIEW

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

PREVIEW

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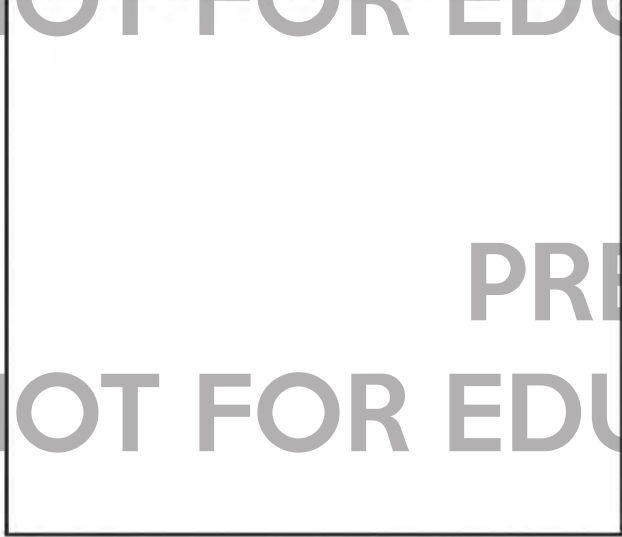
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CRITICIZED FOR



MAJOR OBSTACLE



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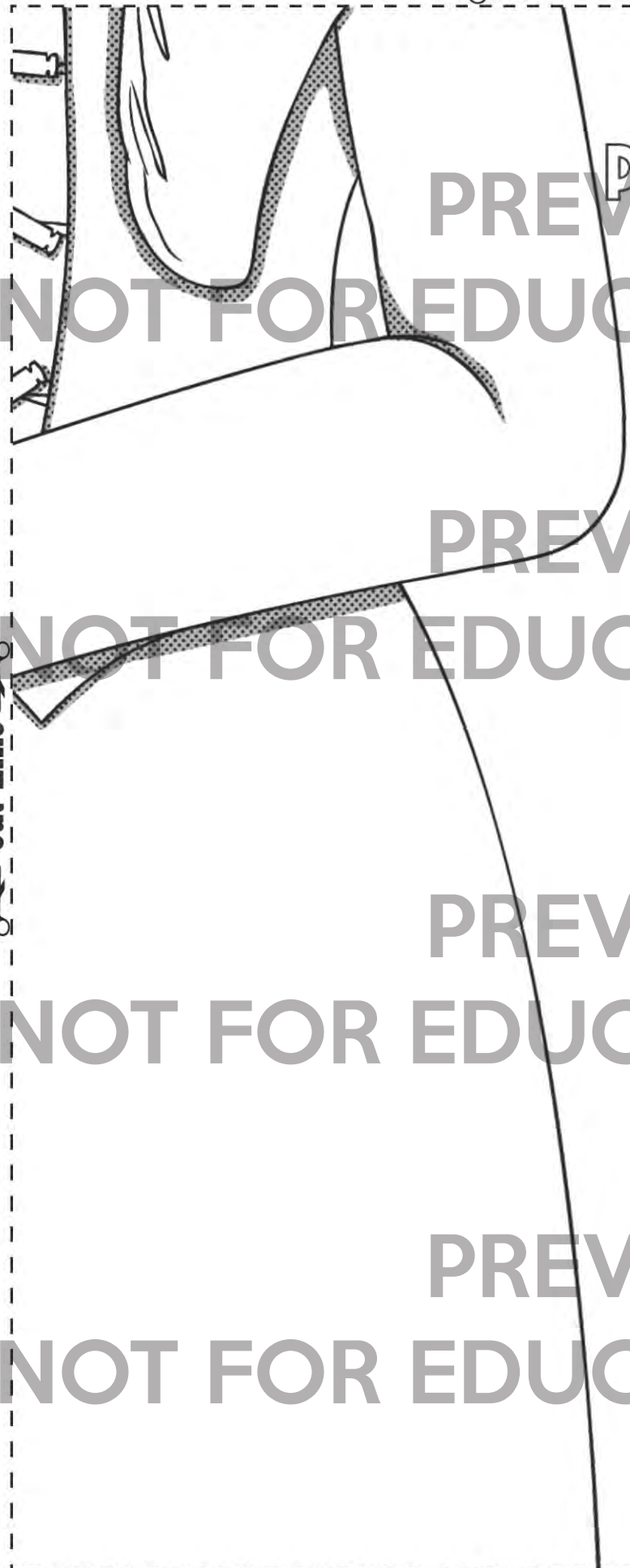
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PASSION / TALENT

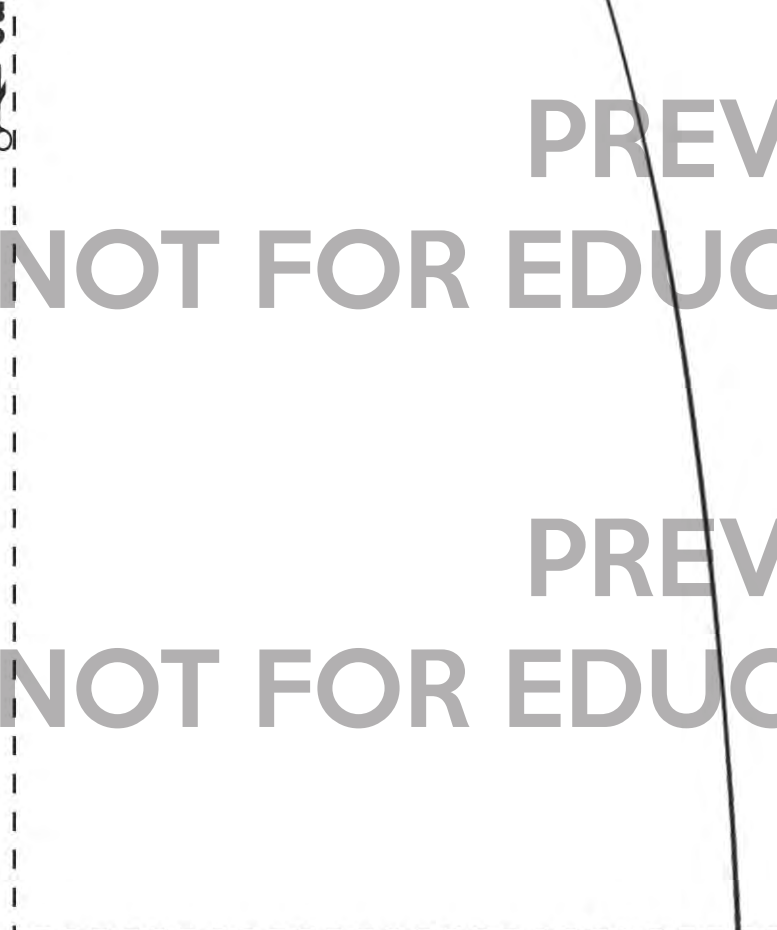
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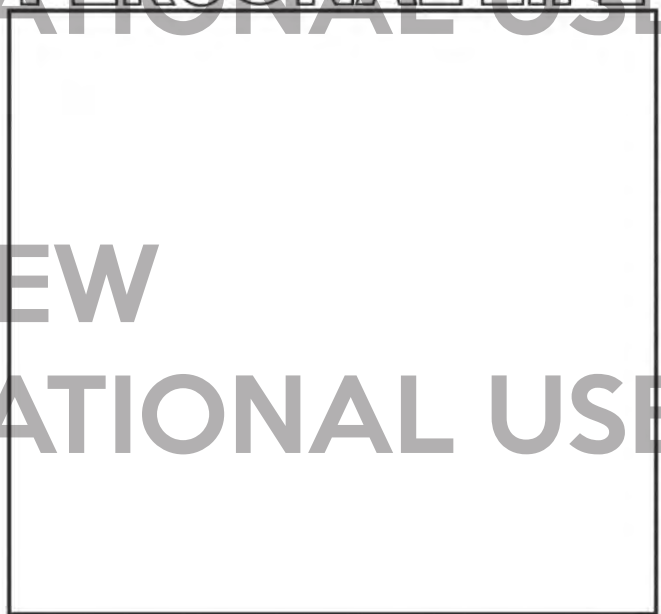
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PERSONAL LIFE

PREVIEW
NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

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2 MAJOR LIFE EVENTS

PREVIEW
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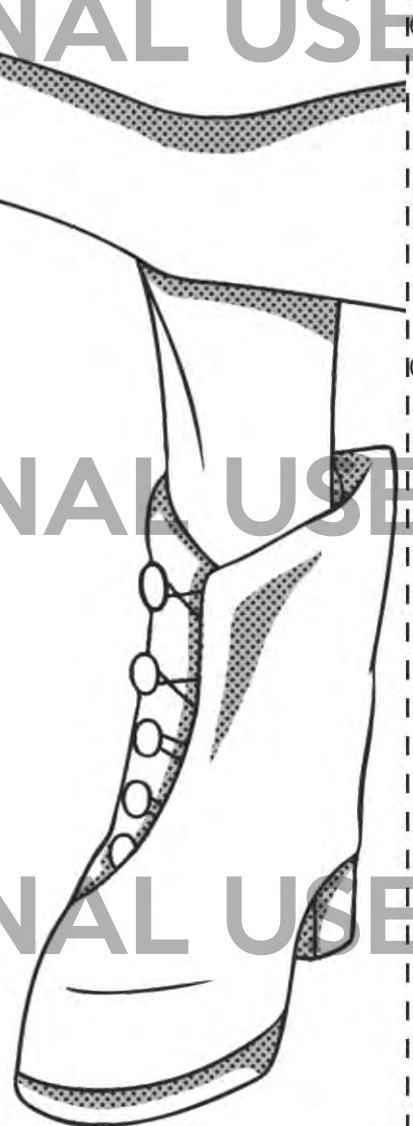
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BIRTH DATE

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PREVIEW

3 ADJECTIVES

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

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NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE



DEATH DATE

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Literary Legends Author Study Project Rubric

	20	15	10	5
Research	The group conducts thorough research on the author. The group demonstrates a deep understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts important events of the author's life accurately and specifically. The group includes meaningful information.	The group conducts research on the author. The group demonstrates a basic understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts some important events of the author's life accurately and specifically. The group includes mostly meaningful information.	The group conducts some research on the author. The group demonstrates an elementary understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts events of the author's life that are moderately unclear or inaccurate. The group includes a fair amount of meaningful information.	The group conducts little research on the author. The group does not demonstrate an understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts unimportant events of the author's life that are inaccurate and ambiguous. The group mainly includes nonessential information.
Overall Appearance	The overall appearance is exceptionally creative and aesthetically pleasing. The graphic elements are skillfully and neatly colored. The written text is distinct and easy to read.	The overall appearance is creative and aesthetically pleasing. The graphic elements are neatly colored for the most part. The written text is easy to see and read.	The overall appearance is somewhat creative and acceptably attractive. The graphic elements are colored completely, though slightly messy. The written text is visible and decently readable.	The overall appearance is messy and not attractive to look at. The graphic elements are not colored completely. The written text is difficult to see and comprehend.
Participation	All students in the group are on task, and everyone completes his/her individual role. All group members contribute to the planning, research, and execution of the project. Group members follow directions and complete the project on time.	Mostly all students in the group are on task, and majority of the members complete his/her individual role. Most of the group members contribute to the planning, research, and execution of the project. Most of the group members follow directions and complete the project on time.	Some of the students in the group are on task, and some group members complete his/her individual role. Some of the group members contribute to the planning, research, and execution of the project. Some of the group members follow directions and complete the project on time.	The students in the group are seldom on task, and less than half of the group members complete his/her individual role. The group members scarcely spend time planning and researching for the project. Hardly any of the group members follow directions nor complete the project on time.
Cooperation	The group works together to create a well-executed project. Students respect one another and encourage the ideas and efforts of others in a cooperative manner. The group demonstrates a positive attitude towards the project.	The group works together to create a completed project. Students mostly respect one another and maybe encourage the ideas and efforts of others. The group demonstrates a positive attitude towards the project.	The group sometimes works together, but mostly works independently to create a completed project. Students sometimes respect one another and tolerate the ideas and efforts of others. The group demonstrates a somewhat positive attitude towards the project.	The group does not work together in order to complete the project. Students show minimal respect for one another and struggle to tolerate the ideas and efforts of others in a decent manner. The group demonstrates a negative attitude towards the project.
Attention to Detail	Writing contains 0-1 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling. The group thoroughly and effectively completes all the project requirements.	Writing contains maybe 2-3 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling, but it does not distract the reader from the overall content. The group completes all of the project requirements.	Writing contains 3-4 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling that somewhat distract the reader from the content. The group completes most of the project requirements.	Writing contains more than 4 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling that distract the reader from the content. The group completes some of the project requirements.

Group Members:

Additional Comments:

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Collaborative Author Study Project

Objective: Research a specific author in order to learn about his/her career, life, and notable achievements. Create an attractive poster that includes a colored illustration of the author and presents the most crucial information from your research.

1. The poster is comprised of 6 separate pieces of paper. Evenly distribute the pieces of the poster amongst the members in your group.
2. Look for reputable sources of information and websites from credible organizations. Research the author, specifically using the categories you are assigned. Take notes on your findings, but don't write directly on your poster just yet. Write down your notes on the brainstorming worksheet.
3. Examine and analyze the information you've gathered. Compare notes with your group members and remove any repeated or redundant information. Choose essential information that you will use to fill in the appropriate boxes on your pieces of paper. Proofread, revise, and edit the information you've found. Make sure the information you gathered is written in your own words.
4. Neatly copy your final drafts of information onto your poster. Use dark pen or marker. (You can use pencil to begin with and then trace over the pencil with a darker pen).
5. Collaborate with your group to choose a color scheme for your poster. Each group member should color an equal number of pages. You can use crayons, colored pencils, markers, glitter, and other crafting materials. The poster must be entirely colored.
6. Complete the project! Carefully cut along the dotted lines to retrieve the final 6 pieces of poster paper. Tape the 6 pieces of paper in their proper places, so that the illustration lines up correctly.



Author Study Project

Brainstorming Worksheet

First, research your author and write your findings here. Next, transfer your answers to the boxes on your poster. Each box on your poster should include 1-3 sentences.

NATIONALITY:

Where was the author born? What country is the author from? Where are the author's parents from?

PRAISED FOR:

Why is this author famous? What do people admire and celebrate about this author? List notable works.

CRITICIZED FOR:

What is the author judged for negatively? What is something the author has said or done that is not approved by others? Why do some people dislike this author?

MAJOR OBSTACLE:

What mental, physical, or emotional obstacles has the author had to overcome? What challenges or barriers, such as financial difficulties or health problems, did the author face?

TWO MAJOR LIFE EVENTS:

Briefly explain two major events that occurred in the author's life. A major life event is a significant occurrence that has a lasting impact on an individual's life. These events can be positive or negative.

BIRTH DATE:

When was the author born? Be as specific as possible.

QUOTE:

Choose a quote by the author. Include the context of the quote. When was it said? Is it a line from a novel? A poem? An interview? Explain the meaning of the quote.

PREVIEW

EDUCATION AND CAREER:

Where and when did the author attend school? What career choices led this person to become a successful author? When did this person become an author? When did the author achieve fame?

PASSION/TALENT:

What skills or talents does the author possess? What beliefs, ideals, or goals does the author have strong feelings about? What activities is the author enthusiastic about (what brings him/her joy)?

PERSONAL LIFE:

What are at least two facts about the author's personal life? For example: Is the author married? Does the author have children? Does the author have siblings? Who is the author's closest ally or friend?

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

When did the author pass away? If the author is still living, what is his/her age?

Zora Neale Hurston — Answers will vary
Author Study Project

First, research your author and write your findings here. Next, transfer your answers to the boxes on your poster. Each box on your poster should include 1-3 sentences.

NATIONALITY:

Where was the author born? What country is the author from? Where are the author's parents from?

Zora Neale was an American author, born in Notasulga, Alabama. Hurston was the daughter of two formerly enslaved people.

PRAISED FOR:

Why is this author famous? What do people admire and celebrate about this author? List notable works.

Zora Neale Hurston was an African-American author, anthropologist, teacher, and filmmaker. She is best known for her novel "Their Eyes Were Watching God," which is considered a classic of African-American literature. Hurston conducted extensive research on African-American folklore and culture, traveling throughout the American South and the Caribbean. She is praised for her rich portrayal of African-American life and the complexities of identity. Her other most notable works include: "Mules and Men", "Jonah's Gourd Vine", "Tell My Horse", "Sweat", "Dust Tracks on a Road" and "Barracoon."

CRITICIZED FOR:

What is the author judged for negatively? What is something the author has said or done that is not approved by others? Why do some people dislike this author?

Hurston's use of dialect in her works garnered both praise and criticism. While many appreciated her ability to capture the authenticity of African-American speech, some argued that it perpetuated harmful stereotypes and overall, made it very difficult to understand or even simply just read.

MAJOR OBSTACLE:

What mental, physical, or emotional obstacles has the author had to overcome? What challenges or barriers, such as financial difficulties or health problems, did the author face?

As an African-American woman during the early 1900s, she was faced with racial and gender discrimination regularly. It was challenging her for to get published or taken seriously; to include in her regular day-to-day life. She grew up in the segregated American South where she had restricted to access to public places and limited educational opportunities.

TWO MAJOR LIFE EVENTS:

Briefly explain two major events that occurred in the author's life. A major life event is a significant occurrence that has a lasting impact on an individual's life. These events can be positive or negative.

Hurston moved to New York City's Harlem neighborhood in the 1920s where she became an active participant in the Harlem Renaissance. This movement consisted of the celebration of African-American literature, art, music, and social commentary. During her time in Harlem, Hurston participated in literary gatherings, collaborated with other artists, and published her writings in various periodicals. In 1926, Hurston collaborated with Langston Hughes and Wallace Thurman to publish the magazine Fire!. The issue included Hurston's short story "Sweat." The magazine sought to challenge the stereotypes and limitations imposed on African-American literature and art, advocating for a more authentic and inclusive representation of black experiences.

BIRTH DATE:

When was the author born? Be as specific as possible.

She was born January 7, 1891. She was the fifth of eight children.

QUOTE:

Choose a quote by the author. Include the context of the quote. When was it said? Is it a line from a novel? A poem? An interview? Explain the meaning of the quote.

"I have the nerve to walk my own way, however hard, in my search for reality, rather than climb upon the rattling wagon of wishful illusions." This quote is from a letter written by Zora Neale Hurston to Countee Cullen. It reflects her independent and determined spirit, as well as her commitment to authenticity.

EDUCATION AND CAREER:

Where and when did the author attend school? What career choices led this person to become a successful author? When did this person become an author? When did the author achieve fame?

Zora earned an associate degree from Howard University in 1920 where she studied English. She then studied anthropology at Barnard College, and earned a bachelor's degree in 1927. She published her first story, "John Redding Goes to Sea," in Stylus magazine. In 1933, her story "The Gilded Six-Bits" was published and gained her positive recognition. Her big break in her writing career came in 1937 with the publication of "Their Eyes Were Watching God." The novel's publication helped to establish her as a prominent figure of the Harlem Renaissance and contributed to the celebration of her literary contributions.

PASSION/TALENT:

What skills or talents does the author possess? What beliefs, ideals, or goals does the author have strong feelings about? What activities is the author enthusiastic about (what brings him/her joy)?

Zora was passionate about storytelling, and did so through novels, short stories, and plays. She also used writing as a way to preserve the culture of African-Americans. She dedicated herself to collecting and documenting folktales, songs, rituals, and other aspects of African-American heritage. Hurston had a keen interest in anthropology and conducted fieldwork to study African-American communities and cultures. She enjoyed theater and music.

PERSONAL LIFE:

What are at least two facts about the author's personal life? For example: Is the author married? Does the author have children? Does the author have siblings? Who is the author's closest ally or friend?

On May 19, 1927, Zora married Herbert Sheen. They divorced in 1931. Zora then married Albert Price in 1939. They divorced in 1943. Zora got married again to James Howell Pitts in 1944. They divorced later that year. While Zora had a close relationship with her nieces and nephews, she never had any of her own children.

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

VIBRANT, AUTHENTIC, OUTSPOKEN

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

When did the author pass away? If the author is still living, what is his/her age?

Zora Neale Hurston faced financial difficulties later in her life and was forced to enter a Welfare Home in 1959. Zora Neale Hurston died on January 28, 1960 in the St. Lucie County Welfare Home of hypertensive heart disease. She was 69 years old and was buried in an unmarked grave. In 1973, the novelist Alice Walker discovered Hurston's grave and arranged for a gravestone to be placed there, providing recognition and honor to Hurston's legacy.



NATIONALITY

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PRaised FOR

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ZORA NEALE HURSTON



QUOTE

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PASSION / TALENT

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PERSONAL LIFE

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3 ADJECTIVES

VIBRANT

AUTHENTIC

OUTSPOKEN



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