***Their Eyes Were Watching God***

(Zora Neale Hurston, 1937)

Chapters 14-17 Reading Questions

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

1. Where do Janie and Tea Cake end up living once they get to the Everglades? How close are they to the large Lake Okechobee?
2. What three (3) ways does Tea Cake plan to make money while they are living in the much?
3. While they wait for the beans to grow, what does Tea Cake teach Janie to do? Does she find it difficult or easy to learn this skill?
4. What is the atmosphere like once people from all over finally make it to the Everglades?
5. Why does Janie finally join Tea Cake, picking beans alongside him? How is her attitude about working with her man the same or different from her previous husbands?
6. What is the overall **mood** of this chapter?

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

1. Summarize this short chapter. Was Janie right to feel this way about Nunkie? Would you have handled this situation differently?

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

1. Janie and Tea Cake stay in the muck after the season ends and “there was nothing to do” so what does Janie begin to notice around the Everglades?
2. Research the meaning of the word: colorism. What does it mean?
3. We meet Mrs. Turner in this chapter. Why is she drawn to Janie? Why does she dislike Tea Cake and people like him?
4. Tea Cake convinces Janie to end her friendship with Mrs. Turner and Janie tries by acting cold to the woman. Why does Mrs. Turner continue clinging to Janie?
5. How do you think Hurston wants readers to feel about Mrs. Turner?

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

1. Tea Cake beats Janie. What fear prompts Tea Cake to act this way towards the love of his life?
2. How the men and women around the muck react to Tea Cake’s beating of Janie?
3. Tea Cake’s friend Sop-de-Bottom calls Tea Cake a “lucky man” for beating Janie. Why is Tea Cake “lucky”?
4. Tea Cake and his friend Sop then discuss Mrs. Turner. What do they decide about Mrs. Turner?
5. Why does the fight in Mrs. Turner’s café begin, and how does it end?
6. This is the only chapter that does not include Janie. How does this chapter help develop Tea Cake as a character?