



IT'S OUR NATURE®
Moving in the Rhythm of Nature®

*Mama exhorted her children
at every opportunity to
"jump at de sun." I
We might not land
on the sun, but at least
we would get off the ground.*

Zora Neale Hurston



Zora Neale Hurston was a novelist, folklorist, and anthropologist whose fictional and factual accounts of black heritage are unparalleled. Her autobiography, *Dust Tracks on a Road*, begins with the words "I have memories within that came out of the materials that went to make me. Time and place have had their say." Zora's "place" was the frontier wilderness of Florida. She grew up in Eatonville, the only incorporated all-black town in America. Playing in the pine barrens and oak scrub, she unconsciously absorbed

impressions about the wild flora and fauna. The memory of these sights, smells, and sounds inspired her curiosity and creativity

Zora explored and understood all parts of her home state of Florida. She traveled its every mile gathering folktales. *Mules and Men*, a collection of Hurston's folklore from Florida, is rich in the magic of the natural world. The lyrical descriptions of settings, the realistic dialogue, and the haunting simplicity of symbols demonstrate her knowledge of real Florida. Zora sometimes characterizes the people of an area by the plants and animals around them. Regional plants and animals not only lend authenticity to settings and dialogue, they also provide a central symbol for each of her three Florida-based novels. *Jonah's Gourd Vine* is filled with snake imagery. In *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, often considered her finest literary achievement, the central symbol is a pear tree. A large mulberry tree is the main image in *Seraph on the*



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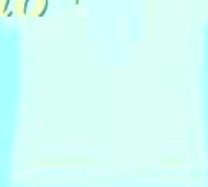


Zora Neale Hurston - January 7, 1891 (Nostasulga, Alabama) - January 28, 1960 (Fort Pierce, Florida)

In 1973, novelist Alice Walker (years before her *The Color Purple* was written) and literary scholar Charlotte Hunt traveled to Fort Pierce, Florida to find this "bodacious" woman's grave. On locating the segregated cemetery called the Garden of Heavenly Rest, they discovered that Zora's unmarked grave was in a field of weeds. Before leaving the town, Alice Walker purchased a gravestone to place in her honor that stated "Zora Neale Hurston, 'Genius of the South.'" The publication of Alice Walker's article "In Search of Zora Neale Hurston" in the March 1975 issue of *Ms. Magazine* revived interest in her work and helped spark a Hurston renaissance.

Thank you, Zora, for showing us the strength of women through the strength of nature.

Healthy-Wear for People Who Care®

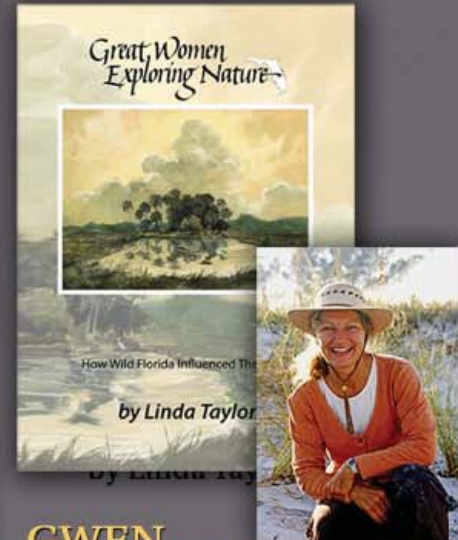


Either plain (Regularly- \$26.00) or with a remarkable design (\$32)

100% Organic Cotton/Hemp Scoop Neck Women's Top in Clay or Eco-Dye Made in Alabama

It's Our Nature Schedule of Events

Every Tuesday	Nature's Food Patch Clearwater, FL	11 AM - 2 PM
Sunday, July 26 Rain Date 8/2	Tropical Delight Plant Faire Vidrico, FL	10 AM - 5 PM
Wednesday, July 28	Women Mean Business Expo County Center - Dunedin	4 PM - 8 PM
Thursday, July 18 & 25 August 1, 15, 22 & 29	Summer Saturday Market Mahaffey Theater Parking Garage 1st Level 400 1st St. S. - St. Petersburg	9 AM - 1 PM
Saturday, August 8	Dunedin Green Market Pioneer Park - Dunedin	7:30 AM - Noon
Thursday August 6	Hippie Fest	5 PM - 9 PM



GWEN . . .
Great Women Exploring Nature by Linda Taylor

Enjoy the summer nights! As frog choruses and firefly chorography become less frequent, honor what you find. It is a joyful reminder of our childhood summers and will wake us up to do what we can to preserve this precious earth.

By the way, I purchased a reel push mower and am having a blast mowing my lawn. People are always stopping to see this unusual time machine - (that my Dad used) No gasoline or noise - just people power, natural mulch and the time to smell the cut grass.

Please visit my Weekly Blog in the Green Community of Creative Loafing.

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Become a Fan of ION on FaceBook and get weekly updates of events and eco-happenings!

Guess who is reading GWEN? See enclosed attachment from the St. Pete Times.

Move Gently in the Rhythm of Nature, Linda Taylor

ION Nugget

How Much Water Can You Collect in Rain Barrels During a Rainfall?

- Move and Write Retreat
- Nature Wedding or Anniversary Ceremonies

Visit Our Website!

www.ItsOurNature.com for information on our eco-friendly products, services and resources:

- Marketplace for Organic Healthy-Wear for People Who Care!
- Calendar of Events
- Resources for Greening Your Home or Business
- Green Living to support us environmentally safe, sustainable planet & more ...

Contact Linda Taylor: 787-241-2500 or