

**“How It Feels to Be Colored Me” ~ Zora Neale Hurston (Quote Analysis)**

**CLAIM:** In her 1928 essay “How It Feels To Be Colored Me” Harlem Renaissance author Zora Neale Hurston reflects on her identity as an African America. While Hurston recognizes **the power of racism** and **its impact on the nation both past and present**, she demonstrates a **strong sense of pride, hope and connection to the United States**.

*Directions: Following the example below, select and analyze three quotes from the essay that support the above claim. Copy the quote down, summarize the main idea of the selected text in your own words, and explain how your selection helps to prove the claim.*

<b>Quote (Document Evidence)</b> (copy the quote from the essay)	<b>Summary of the Main Idea</b> (in your own words, what does the author mean)	<b>Explanation of Significance</b> (in your words, why and how does this quote support the claim)
<i>“...I am not tragically colored. There is no great sorrow damned up in my soul, nor lurking behind my eyes.”</i>	<i>Hurston is not ashamed of her race nor does her being an African American cause her pain, difficulty, or pressure.</i>	<i>While others might be harmed by racism, Hurston refuses to be held back which demonstrates her sense of self-worth and confidence.</i>
Quote #1		

<b>Quote (Document Evidence)</b> (copy the quote from the essay)	<b>Summary of the Main Idea</b> (in your own words, what does the author mean)	<b>Explanation of Significance</b> (in your words, why and how does this quote support the claim)
Quote #2		
Quote #3		

**Conclusion:** *The emergence of African American writers, performers, and politicians during the Harlem Renaissance gave voice to countless African Americans who previously were underrepresented and unheard. Their words and actions would provide tremendous inspiration for and support the progress of future generations of African Americans. Yet, despite these gains, the United States in the 1920s still grappled with the negative impacts of prejudice and discrimination that greatly limited the hopes of a nation built on the ideals of equality and freedom.*