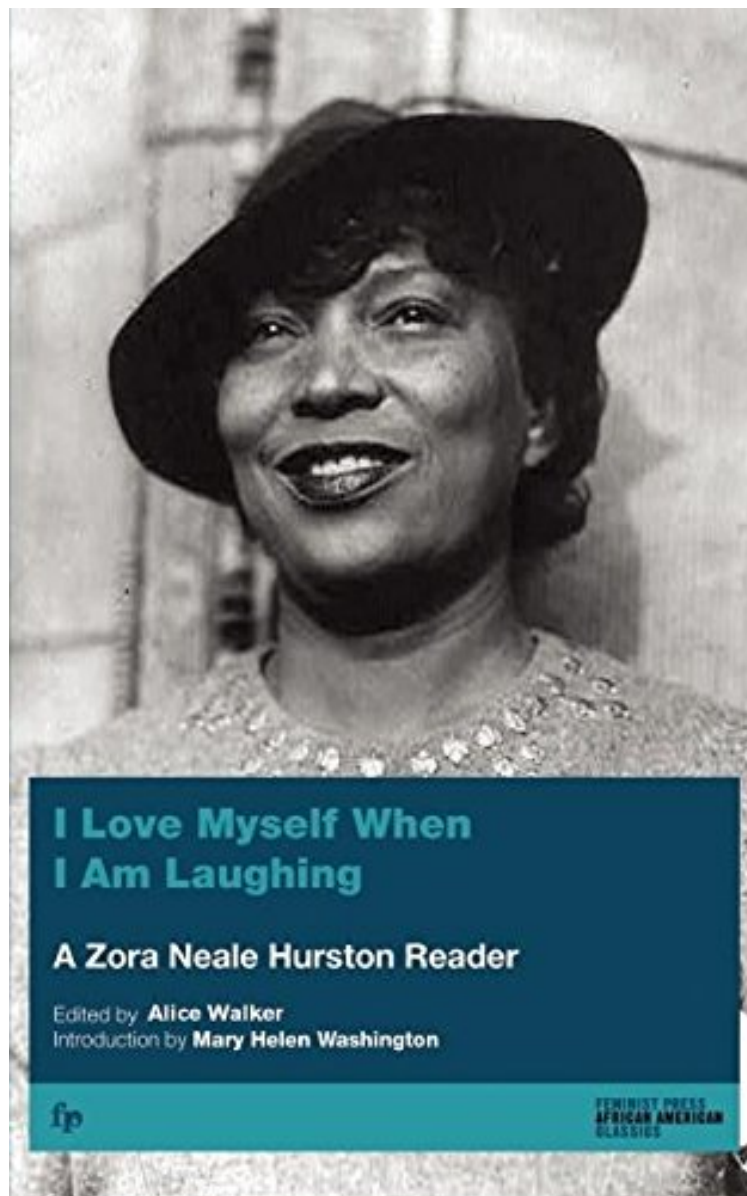


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## I Love Myself When I Am Laughing And Then Again When I Am Looking Mean Impressive

*Zora Neale Hurston*

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**Zora Neale Hurston : I Love Myself When I Am Laughing And Then Again When I Am Looking Mean Impressive** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised I Love Myself When I Am Laughing And Then Again When I Am Looking Mean Impressive:

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. how does it feel to be coloured meBy RaffyThis is a collection of work from the novelist Zora Neale Hurston. It contains fourteen remarkable selections from a writer who produced novels, essays and letters from 1920 - 1950. It is an anthology of works that provides a wonderful insight into American social and cultural history as well as offering an incredible mental picture of the woman - Hurston. The book is edited by Alice Walker. In 2007 the Guardian newspaper asked women to recommend a book that had made an impact on them as women. Zadie Smith wrote passionately about Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God* and how, having read this book, her life and writing had been enriched. I feel at last here was recognition for a black woman writer who Alice Walker describes as "a woman ahead of her time". The book is an extraordinary journey through the title. Hurston writes about black American 'folk art' that is questioning and without apology. In the words of Alice Walker "the language of the characters, that 'dialect' that has been laughed at, denied or ignored, or 'improved' so that white folks .....can understand it is simply beautiful". Hurston's writing is mean and impressive and she challenges the reader to think and go back and think again - about the meaning of her words. You find yourself asking: is she challenging the 'politics' of the day in *Crazy for This Democracy*, or is she an artist of words, challenging assumptions about ethnicity and culture in *What White Publishers Won't Print*? I have dipped into this book over the years and never cease to be amazed and thankful for a language that is rich in meaning and colour, never dull and always inspirational and always able to provide a quote or a text that has meaning for today's readers. I do not think this anthology is now in print. However, other works of Hurston are and readers are to be encouraged to go and seek them out. This is what Hurston had to say about herself, "I couldn't see it for wearing it. It was only when I was off in college, away from my native surroundings, that I could see myself like somebody else and stand off and look at my garment". Again she captured the art of critical reflection in a way that I couldn't.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. My Favorite WritersBy dothulal am a zealous fan of both Zora Neale Hurston and Alice Walker, and have been for over 35 years. Love the title. Love their writing and the depth, reality they explore.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Zora HurstonBy debby gZora Neal Hurston is one of the great American writers - she actually studies anthropology and gives an accurate portrayal of life of Black folks in the south after WWI. Some critics do not like her use of dialect, but I think it reads as honest.

The most prolific African-American woman author from 1920 to 1950, Hurston was praised for her writing and condemned for her independence, arrogance, and audaciousness. This unique anthology, with fourteen superb examples of her fiction, journalism, folklore, and autobiography, rightfully establishes her as the intellectual and spiritual leader of the next generation of black writers. The original commentary by Alice Walker and Mary Helen Washington, two African-American writers in the forefront of the Hurston revival, provide illuminating insights into Hurston the writer, and the personas well as into American social and cultural history.

About the AuthorZora Neale Hurston (1891-1960) was a novelist, folklorist, and anthropologist whose fictional and factual accounts of black heritage remain unparalleled. Her many books include *Dust Tracks on a Road*; *Their Eyes Were Watching God*; *Jonah's Gourd Vine*; *Moses, Man of the Mountain*; *Mules and Men*; and *Every Tongue Got to Confess*. Alice Walker is a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist and essayist.