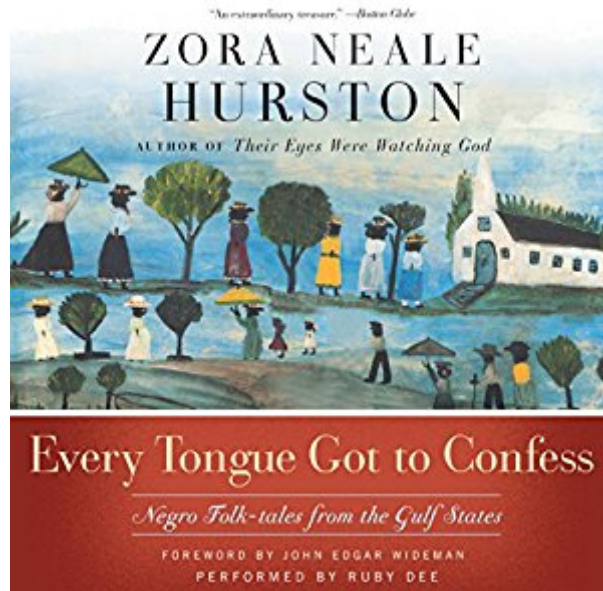


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# Every Tongue Got To Confess



## Synopsis

Every Tongue Got to Confess is an extensive volume of African American folklore that Zora Neale Hurston collected on her travels through the Gulf States in the late 1920s. The bittersweet and often hilarious tales, which range from longer narratives about God, the Devil, white folk, and mistaken identity to witty one-liners, reveal attitudes about faith, love, family, slavery, race, and community. Together, this collection of nearly 500 folktales weaves a vibrant tapestry that celebrates African American life in the rural South and represents a major part of Zora Neale Hurston's literary legacy.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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## Customer Reviews

It was said from those that knew her best, that African-American folklore was Zora Neale Hurston's first love. The ability to manifest in, and excel within the margins of her own people's swapping lies, telling tales, and giving unique meaning to life from the backhand side. Thus, if any part of her legacy is to prevail, one should pay close attention to this side of her that I feel truly helped to define her writing style. No doubt, the genesis of it all goes back to her Eatonville, Florida roots sitting on the porch of the neighborhood story listening to the older men adhere to the aforementioned. Subsequently as a Barnard student of Anthropology under the guidance of Franz Boaz, she embarked in 1927 on a two-year effort to collect samples of African-American folklore. This sets the stage for Negro Tales From The Gulf States, which can boast of an interesting evolution. This is a book written by Zora that was almost an afterthought, until recently discovered after lying in obscurity for nearly 30 years. All of this time, it was stored in a

basement at Columbia University, and 20 more at the Smithsonian before coming to light at the urging of the author's estate and others. What we have here in borrowing Zora's own words is authenticity to preserve the tale-tellers way of speaking – savoring the boiled-down juice of human living. The book is well written and organized by subject. Read it and revel in how the author used and presented vernacular that would be recognized today as Ebonics – everyday idiomatic expressionism. You will witness improvisational wordplay and given an apt explanation of how these folktales were collected, lost, found, and examined for the deep significance they hold today.

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