



“She saw a dust-bearing bee sink into the sanctum of a bloom; the thousand sister-calyxes arch to meet the love embrace and the ecstatic shiver of the tree from root to tiniest branch creaming in every blossom and frothing with delight. So this was a marriage!”

### Part 1

In chapter 2, Janie lays under the blossoming pear tree and, taking in its beauty, exclaims, “so this was a marriage! (11). Minutes later, Nanny tells Janie that “youse uh ‘oman, now, so--,...ah wants to see you married right away, (11).

To help us get a handle on this, here’s a few short questions. **PLEASE ANSWER EACH WITH COMPLETE SENTENCES.**

- What are the characteristics of the marriage that Janie imagines?
- What are the characteristics of the marriage that Nanny imagines for Janie?
- Why does Janie let out a “sobbing sigh” (15) when Nanny insists she marry Logan Killicks?  
**MAKE SURE THAT YOU DIG DEEPER ON THIS ONE! IT’S NOT JUST BECAUSE “SHE DOESN’T WANT TO!”**

### Part 2

Also in chapter 2, Nanny says to Janie “you know, honey, us colored folks is branches without roots and that makes things come round in queer ways,” (16).

- How does this statement compare with the statement at the beginning of chapter 2?

### Part 3

Chapter 3 begins with the statement that “there are years that ask questions and years that answer,” (21). We are then asks if marriage will “end the cosmic loneliness of the unmated,” (21).

- Do you think that marriage is what Janie needs to end her “cosmic loneliness?” (21).
- We learn that marriage “did not make love” (25) for Janie, and that it caused her dream to die, “so she became a woman,” (25). What dream died?
- In 5-7 sentences, **with one citation**, explain the relationship between Logan and Janie.