

The background of the entire page is a repeating Art Nouveau floral pattern. It features stylized green leaves, white flowers, and yellow pears on a light yellow background. Small black and yellow bees are scattered throughout the design, some appearing to fly or land on the flowers. The pattern is symmetrical and fills the entire frame.

2018  
TABASCO  
LUNCHEON

FEATURING  
MASHAMA BAILEY  
THE GREY

INSPIRED BY  
ZORA NEALE HURSTON



*“She left the South to support herself, but she never ran away from it. She told real stories of her place, and she had a real connection to working class folks. She exploded the reality of Southern living for her time.”*

**- MASHAMA BAILEY, protagonist,  
The Grey**

## **JOOK SNACKS**

*“People used to eat what was around,” Mashama Bailey says, comparing her small-town Georgia roots and the rural Florida youth of Zora Neale Hurston. “They cooked outside. And they cooked an abundance of animals, of chickens and pigs and rabbits.”*

**Pulled Rabbit with Tabasco Sauce  
Hot Buns with Preserves  
Bread and Butter Pickles**

## **SECOND**

*“I’m here to represent Savannah. And to represent Zora. Her dish was chicken and rice. If she had been from Savannah, red rice would have been her dish. I’m sure about that.”*

**Savannah Red Rice with Shrimp  
Stewed Okra**

## **THIRD**

*“Zora wrote beautifully about juke joints and the people who gathered there. Fish is the ultimate juke-joint food. Too many people talk about shrimp and grits. Not enough people talk about fish and grits.”*

**Smoked Whiting and Grits  
Tabasco Sauce-Braised Collards with Smoked Pig Tails  
Ash-Roasted Sweet Potatoes**

## **DESSERT**

*To research, I read a lot of Zora Neale Hurston, including Their Eyes Were Watching God, in which the character Tea Cake is Janie’s true love. I also read Wrapped in Rainbows, Valerie Boyd’s biography of Hurston. She told me that cornbread and buttermilk was Zora’s favorite childhood breakfast, so I made the teacakes with cornmeal and buttermilk.*

**Candied Pears  
Peanut Brittle  
Tea Cakes**

*“To start off wid, people like dem wastes up too much time puttin they mouf on things they don’t know nothin about. Now they got to look in to me loving Tea Cake and see if it was done right or not! They don’t know if life is a mess of cornmeal dumplings and if love is a bed quilt!”*

**- JANIE MAE CRAWFORD, protagonist,  
Their Eyes Were Watching God**

