



**TURNABOUT HOST GERRI LANGE**

...Talks to author Toni Morrison

## Turnabout To Explore "A Woman's Roots"

By Cynthia Bell  
Post Staff Writer

Since the release of the epic ROOTS, America is caught up in the phenomenon of roots, that is finding out who we are, where we came from, and what experiences we share that make up what we are today. TURNABOUT explores A WOMAN'S ROOTS over WTVI, Channel 42, at 8:30 p.m. on April 10. This episode is the tenth program of the 26 chapter TURNABOUT series which is distributed to local public television stations by the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS).

Gerri Lange, program host, talks with Toni Morrison, a writer of books which coincide with roots of Black Americans. THE SONG OF SOLOMON, her latest book, tells about the experiences of a young black man whose search into his past leads to remarkable discoveries of his own self. Ms. Morrison reveals to the host that this book parallels her search for her ancestors. THE SONG OF SOLOMON won the 1977 National Book Critics Award for Fiction.

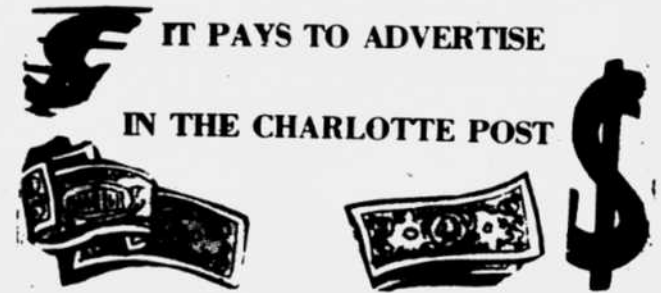
Ms. Morrison points out that the attitude of black people toward their forefathers have changed considerably during the last 30 to 40 years. "It was sometimes embarrassing to remember slave ancestors or sharecroppers or wherever we came from. A lot of people are interested in denying it. Families never spoke about that part of their lives," stated the author. "Since the publication of Alex Haley's book, ROOTS, black people are finally catching up with their own neglect of the past," says Ms. Morrison.

She further stated that "Blacks represent the classic orphan situation, being here with no names and easily recognizable, easily discoverable past. Americans are a new race of people, having left all those countries in Europe and other places. Now that we have the leisure and we're old enough as a country, the past seems attractive to us. Each

individual has to pull what he can from his ancestors, from his past in order to make a new man, a new life."

Kathleen Shannon also reveals her search for the past in her film, "Goldwood." As a five year old girl during the 1940's, she moved to a Cana-

dian mining town with her parents only to have the mine close a year later. As a result of this the family moved away. Thirty years later she returns to the Canadian mining town and the deserted mine to try to recapture her lost childhood.



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