1. “...eulogizing the Old South as an Arcadian landscape of order, graciousness and dignity. These writers created a southern landscape where all member of society lived harmoniously and peacefully together.”

Since there’s such a strange concept of time in Willow Springs, when a character travels there it’s as if they’re leaving reality. Nothing really changes or moves on. Even though there are obviously conflicts and issues (death, for example), Willow Springs seems to be in a little bubble that keeps things the way the same over the course of many years.


2. “In “Magical Realism as Postcolonial Discourse,” Stephen Slemon explains that “most worlds of fiction are generically mixed in modes” and Mama Day is no exception.”

Mama Day contains two main settings that are in strong contrast with each other. The way that New York is described makes it seem very realistic and concrete. On the other hand, Willow Springs is this mythical island where time stands still. The concreteness of New York make Willow Springs seem even less real and vice versa. The two settings work together well.


3. “The gold age perfection of the island itself expresses a stable polity, a static harmony, and a fusion of artistry and nature.”

Willow Springs can be taken seriously as this magical, unchanging place partly because it is an island. Islands have a mysterious quality to them which implies that anything could happen. Time can stand still and things can move on without actually moving on because it is an island.