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1. Attempt an incisive interrogation of Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom, underscoring at least five thematic thrusts the drama engages.

### **THEMATIC THRUSTS THAT ENSUED IN "GOOD MORNING, SODOM"**

#### **LOVE:**

Love is a set of emotions and behaviors characterized by intimacy, passion, and commitment. The theme of love seems to be the major thematic preoccupation in the play "GOOD MORNING, SODOM" as almost every single character expressed their love for one another in ways best to them. The first expression of Love can be seen between Demola Diran and Keziah Richards, in this scenario, Demola was the one expressing the love he had for Keziah. Demola stated to his friends about his love for Keziah which unfortunately Keziah didn't reciprocate that made him behave in certain ways to prove to Keziah his love for her. The second person who demonstrated the concept of love in the play was Keziah's mother, Mrs Richards, whom after the shame and disgrace brought upon her by her daughter still cared and empathized with her. Mrs Richards demonstrated real motherly affection and love to her daughter Keziah and stood by her every step of the way, she went as far as confronting her own husband concerning his untoward attitude and approach to what has happened to their daughter. The third layout of love in this play was displayed by Keziah's father, Mr Richards, when he decided to fulfil all righteousness and help his daughter accomplish her dream by getting her admission into the University of Ibadan as a direct entry (200 level) student to begin her course and move past what has happened to her.

Love could be seen between Stella and Keziah, when she told Stella what Demola had done to her, Stella was able to understand what it was she had gone through as she was a victim of rape herself. It could be deduced that Stella's love for Keziah came from a place of sympathy.

#### **BETRAYAL:**

The concept of betrayal is portraying perfidy, which means a state of being deceitful and untrustworthy. The betrayal that occurred in the play was seen where Demola lurefully invited Keziah to his apartment in the disguise of assignments. Demola lured Keziah into his apartment with the pretense of doing assignments where he successfully drugged her with a substance he put on an handkerchief which required her to just have a sniff of it, after this was accomplished and Keziah fell asleep, Demola took position and raped her as it's originally planned. This same concept of betrayal was portrayed in Stella's case when she accompanied her father to the house of their pastor who was the fellowship unit leader in their area. When they got there, Stella's father and the pastor had to rush out somewhere while Stella was left with Daniel and Tosin, the pastor's male children, not long after some of their friends came to the house and they all convened in the room. Daniel came out a few minutes later and lied to Stella that her father was on the call requesting to speak to her in the pastor's room. Stella didn't think twice before rushing to the room to talk to her father and that was when and how Stella lost her

virginity to four conniving boys. The theme of betrayal was portrayed in these two different scenarios which both led to devastating ends.

#### NEGLECTFUL PARENTING/ UNINVOLVED PARENTING:

Neglectful parenting refers to a style of parenting where parents don't respond to their child's needs or desires beyond the basics of food, clothing and shelter. This happened in the case of Demola. Demola was a child who got everything he wanted but lacked parental indulgence in his daily affairs which clearly led to him becoming a juvenile delinquent, due to the fact that Eng. and Mrs Diran weren't actively involved in Demola's affairs made him free on campus to do as he pleases. The lack of awareness of what their son was up to on campus led to the complicated and disastrous turn of events in the play. Their neglectful parenting was seen when Demola decided to live off campus and lied to his parents as instructed by K.K and they chose to believe the ludicrous reason he gave without confirming where he was staying but gave him the money to get himself an apartment. Eng. and Mrs Diran were mainly concerned with making money and providing for the family without actively being involved in their family which is where the theme of neglectful parenting comes in.

#### JUSTICE:

The idea of justice is a treatment that is fair or a just behavior. The play portrayed a very important concept which is justice, that no matter what, how and when it happened, justice must be served. Nkanga Nwoko (a.k.a K.K) who 'mistakenly' killed Demola and other members of his fraternity got a deserving sentence, although he admitted to his crime, that still doesn't make him any less guilty of the crime committed, which on the part of the temple of justice (court) and the parents of the deceased was right. The plaintiff's attorney made a remarking statement which had in it a rhetorical question that goes 'will remorse and sympathy bring back the dead? Is society supposed to overlook these terrible acts because the accused persons have owned up to their guilt?. These questions have already answered themselves as every criminal who goes scot free because he/she owned up to his/her crime will brew up more social violences in the society amounting to loss of lives and other unfortunate situations with justice not being served. In this case, justice was served with K.K having been sentenced to life imprisonment for the offence of manslaughter and the other offenders to two years imprisonment for belonging to an unlawful society and illegal possession of firearms.

#### REGRET:

Regret is the feeling of sadness, repentance or disappointment over an occurrence or something that one has done or failed to do. The play displayed the concept of regret in the aspect of Nkanga Nwoko(K.K) and Engr. and Mrs Diran. Nkanga regretted the fact that Demola had to die by his hands, and that he initiated him into all the bad things on campus. K.K loved Demola as a friend and didn't intend to kill but fate happened and Demola had to die through his hands. He put on the view, his feeling of regret when he called upon Engr. and Mrs Diran to

narrate everything that happened to Demola on campus, how he introduced him to drugs, initiated him into a cult group and how he made him lie to his father regarding his accommodation which brought about Demola's staying off campus.

Engr. and Mrs Diran were also seen to display the feeling of regret after learning everything that happened with Demola and realized they have failed as parents to him, as they knew nothing, absolutely nothing regarding how their son lived through school.

2. Attempt detailed character analysis of any three characters in Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom.

### **CHARACTER ANALYSIS**

- Keziah Richards:

Keziah is a 200 level English female student of Mayflower University. She is a girl who's upright, clever and doesn't lack any home training. Her goal is to focus in school and make her parents the happiest by being a studious child. This has been the case for Keziah until she met Demola who made her wall come crashing down. She has been asked out on several occasions by Demola, whom she refuses every single time because she doesn't want any distraction in her academic life. After much pleading from Demola, she was lured by him into his apartment with the disguise of having an assignment done and the incident which led to her pregnancy occurring, she became devastated and worried that she had brought shame and reproach upon her parents. Due to her father's display of scorn, she decides to commit suicide to end the torture being faced by her parents, especially her father, Mr Richards, every day by seeing her. Keziah was saved from her ingenuous act when her father saw the letter she had written down in the course of her suicide. She later gave birth to Mouritha and was able to go back to school (University of Ibadan) to complete her education and leave behind the unfortunate events that occurred.

- Demola Diran:

Demola is also a 200 level student in the University of Mayflower, who so desperately wanted the love of his crush. He is the son of Eng. and Mrs Diran, who got anything he wanted from his parents except parental advice and how to live life on campus. He was clearly in love with Keziah but didn't know how to go about it. Demola was a young boy in the University who thought the only way to express his affections to a lady was to sleep with her which didn't just happen naturally but in the wrongest of ways as his friend Nkanga Nwoko (a.k.a K.K), a 300 level student, told him to lure Keziah to his apartment, drug her and have his way with her, according to him (K.K), he mustn't miss his opportunity. Demola is a wealthy adolescent who is naive and merely did as he was instructed by students of higher levels who saw him as nothing but someone to sponsor them and which brought about his initiation into their confraternity. He was misled into the dirty existence of campus life and that which came with him after, was his own death.

- Dr Richards:

Dr Richards is husband to Mrs Richards and father to Keziah. He is a man of integrity and honor. He loves his family so dearly but cares more about what the society thinks. He was the first to find out about Keziah's pregnancy and hated her for it. After finding out, he discarded any fatherly love he had for his daughter and showed scorn and denigration towards his very own daughter, which made Keziah not feel wanted in her home. He wasn't bothered about what his daughter was going through, in fact, he didn't want to believe she was actually raped until it was later known that she was. He was concerned with how they will be objects of ridicule everywhere and what people will say. Dr Richards finally realizes his mistake when his daughter tried to kill herself, and asked for her forgiveness. He's a father who, having sought for the forgiveness of his daughter, helped her in reliving her dreams again by getting her admission into the University of Ibadan.

3. What are the points of divergence between the published and the film version of GOOD MORNING, SODOM?

### **Points of divergence**

There are some major glaring differences between the published version and the film version of GOOD MORNING, SODOM. The differences are enlisted below:

#### **In the first scene:**

Published version: The scene began with Keziah coming out of her hostel to see her parents whose car was approaching the hostel, upon her mother seeing her, she alighted from the car to meet with her daughter.

Film version: This began with Mrs Richard already by the side of her car waiting for Keziah to come out of her hostel, Keziah came out and hugged her mother.

#### **The library scene:**

Published version: Keziah was seen walking when she stopped abruptly because of a call, she continued walking while receiving the phone call when she suddenly turned to see Demola who was standing near a tree and also getting off a phone call as she did. Demola approached her and they had a conversation, with her informing him she was on her way to the library, on the spot which ended with Keziah leaving Demola on the spot.

Film version: it started with Keziah walking by while receiving a phone and suddenly stopping to see Demola behind her coming towards her, upon reaching her they discussed for a few minutes when she informed him she was headed to the library before the next scene revealed them both in the library where they had their entire conversation.

#### **Class Scene:**

Published scene: It was depicted that Dr. Yusuf was enthusiastic about his lecturing of Literature to his class while listing some scholars like Ruth Finnegan, M.J.C Echeruo Obiechinna and many others, with the spotlight on Ovie and Bunmi at the front seat towards the left corner of the classroom listening attentively while Demola was seated on the at the right side of the class looking distracted. Demola was said to have approached Ovie and Bunmi when they were leaving the classroom to seek indulgence about Keziah's absence from school, wwhich only Ovie was able to provide answers to as they both went to a corner to talk without Bunmi after which the entire conversation, Ovie joined Bunmi to leave while Demola went back to his seat to get his notes and exits.

Film Version: Dr Yusuf was lecturing his class while listing three scholars of literature: Ruth Finnegan, M.J.C Echeruo and Obiechina only, stating their various views on the concept being taught, with the spotlight on Ovie and Bunmi at the front row by the right corner side of the class and Demola sighted on the fourth row of the left corner side seat listening attentively. The class was disrupted by two students : a male and a female, who were scolded by the lecturer for coming to his class late and asked to leave after the end of the class, Dr. Yusuf exited the classroom. Demola was seen seated behind Ovie and Bunmi(who were going through some notes and having a discussion) in the class when Demola started asking questions about Keziah and Ovie providing him with answers and Bunmi also saying a few before Demola thanked them for their listening ears and the scene ends.

### **Cafeteria Scene:**

Published version: The scene begins with students clamouring for food and change in the cafeteria, Demola was sighted in the cafeteria ordering for his food thereafter, he sighted Keziah with her plate of rice with beans and plantains, went ahead to sit with her where they were discussing and after a while he takes a long sip of his drink and a mouthful of rice from his plate.

Film version: the scene started with Keziah eating from her plate of rice and stew. Demola comes straight to her with a tray of drink and asked to sit with her which she answers disinterestedly. Stella was sighted at their back paying attention to what they were discussing, after a while Demola takes a sip out of his drink and the scene ends.

### **Demola's Room**

Published version: The scene starts with Keziah sitting on a plastic chair while Demola walks in talking about how he was not able to get a cold drink around and laid on his bed when he suddenly remembers he has a 5alive in his mini fridge which he brings out for Keziah and pours into the cup for her, not long after, Keziah takes a sip out of the drink and Demola reminds her that she was complaining about a question with him trying to make her understand it. Keziah's message tone rings and she dives into her bag to check what the message, after checking the message Demola drags the phone out of Keziah's hands and gushes over it after which he handed it back to her. After a while Demola reaches into his pocket to get an handkerchief to wipe the dirt, which he claims to see, off Keziah's face, lights peter out and later revealed Keziah on the bed beside Demola with her clothes roughly hanging on the chair next to the bed and her waking up Demola up to ask him about the immoral act he has committed.

Film Version: it began with Demola coming into the room stating how he wasn't able to get a cold drink then sits on the chair opposite Keziah and suddenly remembers he has a 5alive juice in the mini fridge behind him which he gets up to take out and pours Keziah a cup. She suddenly took her phone that was on top her bag and drops it almost immediately which Demola took and admires before she takes it out of his hands. After Demola's glaring looks, she asked what happened and he pretends to see a dirt on her face which he cleans with his handkerchief, Keziah picks up her drink and immediately felt dizzy after which lights peter out, bringing us to Keziah on the bed beside Demola with her clothes on her leg.



### **The Flashback of Stella's Story:**

Published Version: In the book, it was noted that Stella went over to the window side and looks into the vacant distant. She narrated that she went over to her unit leader's house with her father and they were ushered in after some minutes, her father and the unit leader quickly went somewhere leaving her alone with the unit leader's two boys in the house, not long after their two friends join them after which they all went inside to discuss, few minutes later, Daniel comes out to tell her that her father is on the line and requires to speak with her, she didn't think twice before getting up to follow him which resulted to the four of them overpowering her and raping her in turns. The next narration was a village setting in Stella's dream where four men brought out her entire clothes to set ablaze, soon after they left, Stella comes in carrying a pot of water on her head. Stella wakes up in her room after the dream with Emmanuella banging on her to let her know how God still loves her and wants her to come back to him which got her annoyed and chased her out.

After Stella narrated her second dream to Keziah, Keziah stretches out on her bed and sobs uncontrollably with Stella consoling her.

Film version: The flashback starts with Stella on Keziah's bed and looking into the camera. In the Pastor's house, Stella and her father didn't enter the house before the Pastor and her Father went out together while Stella enters the house with Daniel. Stella was seated talking to one of the boys with Daniel and the remaining boys by the dining table, after a while they all converged on the room and Daniel came out to tell Stella something after that, Stella was seen following Daniel with that scene coming to an end.

The next flashback of the village scene where Stella was getting water in the river, then two men bring out Stella's cloth and set it ablaze.

Stella was seen in the backyard taking her clothes out of the hanger while Emmanuella walks up to her and tells her about how God loves her and she is to come back to him with Stella shunning her and that ends.

After the flashback, Keziah and Stella were seen by a tree.

### **Cult Scene;**

Published version: The initiation of the new cult members was happening with three new members on their knees and Demola being one of them. The calabash used for the initiation was stained with blood all over it and K.K was said to be the one who went to get the calabash.

Film version: The initiation of the new members with Demola being among the cult members already, with two members about to be initiated. The calabash was a plain one and someone else apart from K.K. went to get the calabash.

Court scene:

Published version: The plaintiff's lawyer and the defendant's lawyer started off with their opening arguments and both convinced the judge in their best possible ways. The judge declared his final judgement and the scene ended there.

Film version: Only the judge gave his final judgement with the lawyers giving their closing remarks.

### **Hospital Scene:**

Keziah was said to have hugged Stella when they were out of the hospital before entering the car and Stella waved to wish them goodbye, in the published version.

WHILE Stella helped with Mrs. Richards bring Keziah out of the hospital into the car parked in front of the hospital while Stella followed Keziah and her mother in the car, in the film version.

### **Keziah's Home:**

Published version: Dr and Mrs Richards were said to be seated on the couch while Keziah came in to join them and sat on the couch when Dr. Richards asked her to pick up the letter on the table before she did and read the wordings of the letter.

Keziah was said to have welcomed her father home, who gave her a look of contempt and went straight to his room, Mrs then comes out of the Kitchen and consoles Keziah who is already crying.

Keziah was said to be eavesdropping on her parents' conversation which they had in their room, after that she went to her room to wail.

Dr Richards came back home after forgetting a file which he goes into his room for, coming back clutching it to his chest where he saw the suicide note Keziah had written and went into her room, where he found her lifeless on the floor and rushed her out with Patrick there to help him take her to the hospital.

Film version: Dr Richards was seated in the living room with Keziah standing beside him, when he asked her to pick up the letter on the table and requests her to read the contents of the letter, after which Mrs Richards comes out of the kitchen to join them.

Keziah was said to have welcomed her father home, who gave her a look of contempt and went straight to his room.

Dr and Mrs Richards were seen having a discussion in the living room, after which Keziah was seen laying on her bed.

Mrs Richards was seen consoling Keziah in her room.

Dr Richards came into the living room to pick up the file he had forgotten when he noticed the suicide note Keziah had left on the table, upon looking up from the letter, he sees Keziah's lifeless body on the floor to the dining room.

### **Prison scene:**

Published version: The book states that Engr. and Mrs Diran visited K.K in prison after which they expressed their feelings towards him and him revealing the truth about what happened to Demola on campus with a flashback to further expantiate.

Film version: The scene starts as a flashback with only Engr. Diran at the prison to listen to what K.K had to say.

**Engr Diran's house:**

Published version: This scene showed Keziah's parents seated with Keziah, alongside Engr. and Mrs Diran discussing.

Film version: This depicted Engr. Diran discussing with Keziah and her parents, where they learnt about the death of Mrs Diran due to the findings regarding all that happened to Demola.

**Last scene:**

Published version: The last scene in the book was when Mrs Richards was playing with Mouritha and Keziah was watching a movie before Dr, Richards comes in and gives the good news of Keziah being able to go back to school, the University of Ibadan to complete her education. They all embrace one another and the play comes to an end.

Film version: The last scene in the movie was when Dr. Hanson broke the news of Keziah's birth to her Parents and the other happenings being written which brought it to an end.