**‘GOOD MORNING, SODOM’; By Solomon Adedokun Edebor**

***QUESTIONS:***

1. Mention five (5) themes depicted in ‘Good Morning, Sodom’.
2. Talk extensively on three (3) Characters.
3. Differentiate between the movie and the book.

***ANSWERS:***

**WHAT ARE THEMES?**

*THEMES* could be defined as the “**MAIN**” or “**CENTRAL**” idea or message in an artistic piece or work. Themes could come in various forms.

1. Five (5) themes depicted in ‘Good Morning, Sodom’ are:

* **THEME OF RAPE:**

‘Good Morning, Sodom’ is a play of Twenty-Three (23) Movements shedding lights on students in a University setting. The *THEME OF RAPE* is depicted in Movement Six (6). Here, Keziah is in Demola’s room. She is engrossed in an activity she is doing, while Demola tries to please her. He explains he couldn’t get a drink for her around his area and mentions he has one in his refrigerator. He opens it and offers some to Keziah. Almost immediately, Keziah starts to feel dizzy and drowsy. We aren’t told exactly what happened, but judging from Keziah’s reaction we can tell she has been raped by Demola. When he (Demola) tries to explain himself, we are told she leaves and is crying hysterically in her room.

Another case study of rape is when Stella is gang raped by four (4) men when she was just Fourteen years old.

* **THEME OF NEGATIVE INFLUENCE OF PEER PRESSURE:**

The *THEME OF NEGATIVE INFLUENCE OF PEER PRESSURE* could be depicted in numerous parts and movements. A significant instance was after the incident between KK and Demola. KK is seen asking Demola how things unfolded between him and Keziah. At first, he is reluctant to divulge any information. But as the movement unfolds, we can clearly see that, Demola is angry with KK and his other friend; Bentol. It is not stated why he is angry but we can see KK offers Demola something to sniff. He declines at first but later nudges on. From what we can tell, it was hard drugs because KK had earlier mentioned it would help “Calm him down”.

* **THEME OF CULTISM:**

The *THEME OF CULTISM* is first sighted in Movement Eight (8). Here we can clearly see the initiation on Demola and two other members. They are told to kneel in front of the leader of the cult; SPARK. They are also told to drink from containing blood. Once the initiation ritual is over, they are officially welcomed to the; ‘*RED SHADOWS CULT’.* Their slogan being; “*UNTOUCHABLE, UNTAMEABLE, UNMERCIFUL”.* In Movement thirteen (13), we are told the police have caught some of the Cultist. From what we can delude, KK has also been caught by the police.

* **THEME OF DEATH:**

The *THEME OF DEATH* is seen in the Tenth (10) Movement. Though it was short and brief, we are told there is a huge crowd of students standing in front of the University front gate. Stella leaves the group to call Keziah.

After a shorty while, Keziah emerges. The crowd is gathered to witness the death of an old Cultist. Ironically, the corpse is Demola’s corpse. We are told here Keziah steps aways and faints not too long after and in a shorter time, rushed to the hospital, for she is bleeding and is also in an unconscious state.

**THEME OF PARENTAL LOVE AND CARE:**

The *THEME OF PARENTAL LOVE AND CARE* is seen in numerous Movements of the book. For starts we can see it in first Movement. Keziah and her mom seem to be close and embrace each other. She is also accepted by her mother in the Sixteenth Movement by her mother despite she is pregnant at a tender age.

**WHAT ARE CHARACTERS?**

*Characters* are individuals a writer uses to create mental pictures on actions or activity through out the book (i.e. Novel, Play etc). There are two three types of Characters, namely: Main Character(s), Major Characters and Minor Characters (or Flat Characters).

1. Three (3) Characters in the book are:

* **KEZIAH:**

Keziah is the main character of the play. At the beginning of the play, she is seen as a perfect daughter, student and person. She is focused and steadfast and advices her friends when they try convincing her to give Demola a chance. Unfortunately, something tragic happens to her in the book. She gets raped and pays the price by getting pregnant. This act puts her out of school and she doesn’t get to finish school. It doesn’t help her parents (most especially her father, Dr Richards) don’t believe in her innocence on getting raped. And so with this, she is forced to keep the baby. Out of frustration and depression, Keziah attempts to commit suicide. We are told about this in the Eighteenth Movement. Luckily, she survives as her father rushes her to the hospital at the nick of time.

* **MRS RICHARDS:**

Mrs Richards is a Minor/Flat character. She is Keziah’s mother. She is seen as a great mother figure who supports her daughter through thick and thin. At the beginning of the play, she is seen visiting Keziah. She explains why her husband (Dr Richards) couldn’t make it. She also encourages Keziah in her academics. She supports Keziah financially by giving her some money for her upkeep. She asks Keziah about Stella (Keziah’s friend and roommate) and proceeds to give her some provisions.

When the news about Pregnancy is brought to light, she (Mrs Richards) supports Keziah unconditionally. She gives her physical as well as moral support. Mrs Richards is also with Keziah when she gets admitted to the hospital after she fainted in school.

* **DEMOLA:**

Demola is one of the Major Characters in the play. He is deeply in love with Keziah which later develops into an Obsession. Demola is seen as Diligent and Hardworking. Unfortunately, he is drugged by his friends and he makes a costly mistake. Demola ends up joi nbiuhj 87cvgjning a Cult as he succumbs to Peer Pressure, this act leads Demola to his untimely death.

1. Differentiate between the Book and the Movie There are significant differences between the book and the movie, here we shall examine those differences.

* The first difference was the Third Movement. In the book we are told the Lecturer (Dr Yusuf) is teaching the class and when he is done, he lives abruptly. Meanwhile, in the movie; in the middle of his explanation, two students walk in late to his class. He dismisses them and tells them to “GET OUT!”.
* The second difference we notice is in the Thirteenth Movement. In the book, we are told the D.P.O. is a Female but in the movie the D.P.O. is a Male.
* The third difference we are told the gender and name of Keziah’s baby. We are told this in the movie. Compared th the book where these are not mentioned.