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AFE 122 ASSIGNMENT

1. Attempt an inclusive interrogation of Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom, underscoring at least five underlying thematic thrusts the drama engages.
2. Attempt detailed character analyses of any three characters in Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom.
3. What are the points of divergence between the film version and GOOD MORNING, SODOM?

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

1. **Negative Peer Group Influence:** This is one of the most dominant themes in the play. In the first movement, Keziah is seen as a very well-mannered girl with the right focus and determination to study and be a good student, who is well aware of the social vices in the university and also has parents who care not only for her financial well-being but also for the physical. But unfortunately, she still falls victim to peer pressure. From the second movement, we are introduced to Demola. He is interested in Keziah, but she is smart enough to understand how teenage boys work and therefore does not conform to his wiles. But her roommates, Ovie and Bunmi, make her seem deluded and overreactive towards Demola. They show their annoyance whenever Keziah shows her displeasure at Demola's interest in her. (pg26: "Show some sense of decorum Keziah, you are too hard on him, if you ask for my opinion."). They also further try to persuade her that he is 'different' and she should 'give him a chance'. She had successfully managed to avoid him and his schemes for some time before the sixth movement opens and she is present in Demola's room. This shows that she felt she could feel comfortable around him because of what her friends had said, but of course she was proved wrong. She is there studying, but

unbeknownst to her Demola has already planned what was going to occur prior to her visit. Demola manages to drug her through a handkerchief that is laced with some kind of drug in powder form that will drug her so he can take advantage of her. The deed is done and Keziah is left in shambles after her womanhood has been forcefully taken from her.

Demola is also a victim of negative peer group influence as he is not the one responsible for coming up with such a heinous act to carry out. He was badly influenced by K.K who acknowledged his affluence and decided to compel him to do things he was not familiar with. K.K, who then introduces him to a life of drugs, sex and cultism.

K.K was the one who gave Demola the idea to rape Keziah (pg73: “All you have to do is find a way to make her sniff it. The magic on it performs the rest”.) and him and Bentol also involved him in a secret society-cult- in movement eight where Demola was newly initiated into the group, which backfired in the end. In the ninth movement we see there’s a shoot out and this was where Demola was shot to his death, permanently ending his life. At the end of it all, Demola was used for his affluence, introduced to drugs, raped a course mate and ended in a tragic way because of the kind of friends he kept and the association he moved with.

2. **Sexual Assault/Rape:** This theme is particularly a very important topic in today’s society and should be taken seriously. This theme was mentioned in sixth movement when Demola has finally taken Keziah’s womanhood away from her. (pg31: “What have you done to me Demola? What have you done to my chastity?”). In this movement, we are introduced to Stella who recounts an experience similar to Keziah’s. Stella was gangraped by four boys. This movement highlights rape and sexual assault, it also sheds light on how the girl child is never really fully safe from such tragic events happening to them. Sexual assault also demeans the girl child’s confidence in themselves. Sometimes they even begin to think they are in the wrong for what was fully out of their control. Keziah is seen extremely agitated and horror stricken from the event, her only thought was how robbed she felt of herself. Stella her friend who was also sexually assaulted tries to console her disoriented friend while sharing her own story. The story sheds light on how parents should be more responsible for their children and should not leave their children, especially the girl child. This story also shed light on the love that Christ has for people and how if you truly seek His face He would come through for you in your most difficult moments when you feel He

didn't care enough for you. By examining the movement, it is quite obvious that parents need to spend more time training the boy child to be able to control their sexual urges, so that girls can feel safe around the male child, not by them projecting their lack of sexual control on poor little girls for just existing. Especially if they are a pastor's son.

3. **Cultism:** Cult groups in tertiary institutions recruit and initiate their new members into the group. Members are lured into the group based on their physique, financial capacity and family background. There are occasions where members are recruited in tertiary institutions. It is quite obvious Demola was introduced to the cult group on the basis of his financial capacity and possibly his physique too. In the eighth movement of the play we are introduced to a cult gathering where Demola and his friends are new members, they are initiated into cultism. In the next movement, there was a shoot out which caused Demola his life tragically. This just shows how bad the consequences of cultism are. It is a very dangerous association that can bring untimely death to a willing victim or an innocent onlooker. It has many horrible consequences like poor academic and many more negatives.
4. **Hard drugs:** In the play there is a mention of hard drugs in the seventh movement, where Demola is expressing his concerns to K.K and Bentol about drugging Keziah and taking advantage of her. But they try to downplay the event and told him to take it easy. This is when K.K reaches his hand into his pocket to bring out a white substance wrapped in a nylon which he then sniffs and passes it to Demola. Our suspicions are now answered when Demola says the substance almost killed him the last time. The white substance is then confirmed to be drugs and this scene show that Demola had already been introduced to drugs before by his peers and there were negative consequences, but despite his past with the substance, he still succumbs to K.K's offer.
5. **Parental Neglect/Irresponsibility:** Parental neglect can be seen in the character of Demola. Demola's parents were affluent and so Demola had everything he needed and wanted except from parental guidance on negative peer group influence, cultism and much more vices that could be found in the university or a school environment. This is one of the reasons why Demola kept the wrong friends, was pressured into cultism and also taking advantage of a girl. If his parents had paid more attention to him, he might not have ended up the way he had. So, it is very important for parents to not only care for their children

financially but also emotionally, socially and mentally, so the child would grow up in good shape, body and soul.

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

1. **Keziah:** Keziah is a student of Mayflower University, a 200 level in English department. She came from a well-disciplined home and is seen as a morally intelligent girl, who knows what she wants and who knows the importance of morals and virtues. From the first movement, she has shown herself to be a dedicated character to her academics and in ensuring she doesn't mix up with the wrong people. She never skipped classes nor involved herself in any social vices, she did not allow herself to be distracted by anything in the campus. Demola her course mate, who was persistent to be in a relationship with her later all came to dust when she was influenced by her course mates, Ovie and Bunmi who were negative influences to her. She fell into Demola's trap unknown to her and became pregnant after the rape which brought about stigmatization to her, especially through her father. It also made her education to be abridged which tempted her to want to attempt suicide due to her father's lack of support and understanding towards her. But eventually, she was rescued from the horrible situation and her dad later understood that she needed all the support she could get from her family, instead of treating her in a mean way. She then safely gave birth to her baby named Mourita. Keziah's parents then found a way to further her education and handle the baby situation.
2. **Stella:** Stella was Keziah's roommate seven years ago when she was fourteen and accompanied her father to the house of a pastor. She was always eager when it came to things of the Lord. When they arrived, her father had an urgent call to leave and she was left alone with Daniel and Tosin, the pastor's sons. They lured her and raped her in turns and later woke up in a hospital. Her parents wanted to press charges but the influential elders pleaded them not to and her and her family ended up relocating to another state. Ever since then, for the past five years, the beliefs she had in God was truncated. She decided to never pray and she dabbled into all forms of immorality and promiscuity even becoming an expert in it. Until she had a dream and one of her course mates, Emmanuella, came with a message from God, that He still loves her. And at first, she was not convinced, but after

some other dreams and encounters with God she gave her life to Christ again. She was also the one who gave support to Keziah after Demola had raped her followed by his gruesome death. Also, when she collapsed after seeing Demola's lifeless body.

3. **Demola:** Demola who was Keziah's course mate, a gullible boy who paid more attention on luring Keziah than concentration on his studies. He was also coming from a wealthy home with parental neglect, he lacked parental discipline and mentoring, he received every material thing he wanted. His parents were oblivious of his activities in school and he was easily influenced negatively by a 400-level student in English department to drugs and cultism. He was influenced him to betray the trust he had over Keziah his course mate to drug her and sexually assaulted her. Afterwards joined cult known as Red Shadows and was later killed accidentally by his friend Nkanga Nwoko aka K.K and that was his downfall fall of everything to him and his parents.

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

1. In the book, Stella's cloth was burnt by four people whereas in the movie, two people burnt her clothes.
2. In the book, Emmanuella went into Stella's hostel to talk to her about God, but in the movie, Stella was packing her clothes when Emmanuella walked up to her.
3. In the book, Stelle told Keziah the story of how she was raped and life after she was raped while in the movie, Stella told her while they were walking.
4. In the book Demola was initiated into the cult, while in the movie, Demola was already in the cult.
5. The ninth movement of the book was not shown in the movie.
6. In the book, Keziah's daughter was named Mouritha but in the movie she was named Heritage Demola-Diran.
7. In the book, Mrs. Diran and her husband went to Agodi prison to meet K.K but in the movie, only her husband went because according to the movie she had died.

