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Course: Afe 122: Use of English
Matric Number: 22/Pharm01/031
1. The underlying themes of the book;
A. Cultism
B. Rape
C. Suicide
D. Sexual Drive
E. Peer Pressure

A. **Cultism**: Cultism as a theme in this book is a perfect description and the unfolding of how bad and harmful it is to students or people involved in this. Demola was a good boy known to his parents at home, but negative influence from his friends KK and Bentol which are members of a secret cult who call themselves Red Shadows got him initiated too. The unfortunate death of Demola was a result of the revenge carried out by Red Shadows against the Sparrows to avenge "Dagren and Festula's deaths which was so unfortunate because he left Keziah behind with their unborn baby and his parents.

B. **Rape:** Keziah was a victim of rape, in that, she was drugged and slept with, without her consent which is so rampant in our societies today. Demola must have had it in mind to be intentional about her but he had to do something this wrong by buying the advice of both of his friends which later ended him and almost ended Keziah.

c. **Suicide:** This is the intentional act of causing one's death, which was played out in this book by Keziah, who almost took her own life due to depression, and stigmatization from her dad which are major risk factors. She was in fact traumatized by Demola's death and her dad's harsh words and always taking it out on her, making her feel shame and disgust. Keziah was so ashamed and depressed to the extent of even leaving behind a note to inform her parents about her suicide. Suicide in this book could have been prevented by showing her love, Truth sharing and getting mental checkups which would have made her feel better about herself.

D. **Sexual drive**: Negative peer pressure also lead Demola into doing this, he was a victim here. He got bad advice from his friends which made him have intercourse with Keziah without her consent and he must have definitely regretted it, which made things end badly for him and Keziah, because Keziah was also a victim, carrying a baby in her belly for a father that's irresponsible (that is, he still depends on his parents as his source of living).

E peer pressure: This is something that's just so common amongst youths, they take their peers advises without thinking it through or consulting and adult who would have led them in the right path. Demola, and Keziah were both victims of this, Demola got initiated into cultism by his two friends K.K and Bentol and also dragged into doing alot of wrong things. Keziah was persuaded by her two friends into giving in to Demola's persistent toasting, which made her fall into the trap planted by Demola and his friends, which resulted into her getting pregnant at a young age. Meanwhile, Stella in this book got influenced positively by her friend whom God had sent to her (Emmanuelle) to desist from all the ungodly things she's been engaging in.

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2. Characters:
A. Keziah Richards
B. Demola
C. Dr Aworawo Richards
Δ Keziah Richards

Keziah Richards was always known to be a serious child, the only daughter and child of the Aworawo Richards family. Keziah appeared in all movements apart from the eight and ninth movements. Keziah was a victim of negative peer pressure and persuasions from Demola that lead to her destruction. Keziah got drugged by Demola and in the process Demola had sex with her and she got pregnant. She gave birth to Demola's child, her daughter Mouritha. Keziah didn't allow the whole pregnancy shame and stressed get to her, instead she continued striving till she got admission into another university to further her education, she's the definition of a Phoenix

B. Demola:

Demola was always known to his parents to be a good kid, he's from a well to-do family that was always ready to help him secure finances in order to live well in school. Demola really liked Keziah, but he made alot of wrong decisions by making friends with the wrong guys and also talking into their pit of cultism and planning the rape of Keziah. Demola engaged in wrong activities in school by taking hard drugs offered to him by KK to forget what transpired between he and Keziah so as not to feel the guilt, but then Demola died in a tragic fight that broke out in their school because he was a member of the Red Shadows and he died by his friend's hands (K.K). Demola was known to have really loved his parents, so K.K passes his last message to his parents before he died. His parents were shocked because he wasn't raised that way.

C. Dr Richards - Keziah's Dad

Dr. Richards is Keziah's dad in the book and was known to have always been proud of his daughter Keziah, but due to an unfortunate incident that happened to Keziah, he became a torn in the flesh, he stigmatized Keziah and made her feel ashamed about herself. He was the one who saw Keziah's suicide note in the living room and went in to quickly rescue his daughter, he later felt ashamed and disappointed in himself because he should have shown her fatherly Love and taken care of her, but he was just so disappointed in her. He later turned up and became the good father Keziah needed at that moment later who. He helped her secure admission in the University of Ibadan to further her studies and also provided her with a nanny to watch over Keziah's little child while she juggled her academics and mothering together.

3. Differences between the book and the novel



In the film version, the twenty third movement was not shown but rather, it was written that Keziah transferred to University of Ibadan.

In the movie, Demola was asking Ovie about Keziah while sitting in the class, while in the book version, it was written that Ovie follows him to a corner to ask about Keziah.

In the book, when Stella was about to share her story with Keziah it was written that she moved over to the window side and looks to the distance whereas in the film, she was sitting on a bed beside Keziah while narrating her story.

In the book, it was written that Stella woke up from a dream then Emmanuella enters, but in the film version, Emmanuella coming to meet Stella was another scene.

In the book version, it depicted the DPO as a female while in the film version, the DPO was seen to be a male.

In the fifteenth movement, the film version had a scene where Mrs. Richards was consoling her daughter Keziah in her bedroom, but in the book version, there is no scene of such.

In the book version, the seventeenth movement showed a detailed court session between the Prosecution Counsel and Defence Counsel, while in the movie, the court session was brief then skipped to the judgement by the judge on the case.

In the book version, Demola was one of the three new members initiated into the Red Shadows cult group, but in the film version, it was seen that there were only two new members being initiated and Demola was already part of the cult group.

In the film version, it was said that Demola's mum was dead while in the book version, Demola's mum was alive.



In the film version, the name of Keziah's daughter, Heritage Demola - Diran was shown, but in book version, it was not.