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**GOOD MORNING, SODOM by Solomon A. Edebor**

1. **INCISIVE INTERROGATION**

Solomon A. Edebor’s Good Morning, Sodom is dramatic play that brings forward the pressing concerns on moral decadence in society.

The play walks us through the life of Keziah Richards, a female undergraduate, and the problem she faces during her journey through school.

Keziah was brought up well by her parents and has held her family name with great pride, never once bringing shame to it. She is a morally upright individual who knows exactly why she was sent to school but, unfortunate circumstances end up meeting even the purest of hearts.

Social vices run rampant in her university, eventually leading to the death of young boy who kept company with the wrong people. This goes to show that those around you determine your tomorrow. From one seeking advice from the wrong person to making irreversible mistakes, Keziah has had her fair share of betrayal. Due to this, she had to give up on her education to accommodate her present situation. This brought great shame and sorrow upon her family and her father never quite moved on from it.

One suicide attempt later, Keziah’s father becomes understanding and Keziah learns to cope with her situation.

**THEMATIC THRUSTS**

* **FAMILY**: The book gives us insight into family relationships. This was shown in the massive contrast between how Demola and Keziah were brought up.
Keziah grew up in a wholesome atmosphere with loving parents that doted on her and watched over her. Demola, on the other hand, grew up in a dysfunctional family. He had loving parents, but they had no time for him and failed to check up on his daily life.
* **REGRET**: Demola’s parents blamed themselves for his untimely death. They deeply regretted not giving their son the attention he deserved by checking up on him and thought things would have panned out differently if they had not let his friend take their place in his life.
Keziah also had her moment of regret. She wished she had not abandoned her mistrust in the opposite gender and fallen into the schemes of Demola.
* **LONELINESS**: During the initial period of her pregnancy, Keziah felt extremely alone and out of place in her family. She was saddened by the grief it brought her parents and felt the anger her father held was justified, thus leading her to attempt suicide.
* **FRIENDSHIP**: Friends are said to be the family we choose ourselves but choosing the wrong ‘family’ brings tragedy more often than not.
Demola, unfortunately, is an example of this. He kept company with cult members which not only affected him, but also the life of his fellow course mate; Keziah.
* **LOVE**: Demola showed genuine love for Keziah, but it came too soon and was aware of his misguidance too late.

Romantic love was not the only kind of love portrayed in the book. The platonic love between Keziah and her roommate, Stella, and the love between Keziah and her family were also depicted.

1. **CHARACTER ANALYSIS**
* **KEZIAH RICHARDS**
Keziah Richards is the main character in the book, Good Morning, Sodom by Solomon A. Edebor. She is the daughter of Dr. Aworawo Richards and Mrs. Joke Richards. She is a very private person that does not tell what she doesn’t want to be known about her.
During her university days, she was a study driven girl who was highly skeptical of the male gender. But when she gets close to one of her male course mates who has been consistently pining for her heart, she experiences heartbreak and betrayal for what seems to be the first time in her life.
After collapsing at her school gate due to the death of said course mate, it is revealed that her mistake left behind a seed in her womb. Regret, shame and loneliness begin to consume Keziah and in a fit of anguish, she decides she is no longer needed in this world.
Keziah proves herself to be the ever-lucky fellow by not only surviving, but the baby as well. She is then properly accepted back into her family and makes amends with her father, who held her in contempt for her poor decision-making skills. Months later, Keziah is a gives birth to beautiful daughter, Mouritha. After which she returns to school to finish her degree, albeit in the second level.
* **DEMOLA DIRAN**
Demola Diran is the secondary main character of the book; he may also be labeled as the antagonist since he was the cause of Keziah’s misfortune. He is the son of Engineer Diran and Mrs. Diran.
Demola was close friends with Red Shadows Confraternity members, Nwoko Nkanga and Yibo Usman, who went by the names K.K. and Bentol respectively. He met them for advice on how to pursue a girl he had fallen in love with, Keziah, despite her strict personality, but was poorly advised and ending up ruining her life. Filled with sorrow and guilt, Demola joins the Red Shadows, thereby leading to his untimely death when the group faces off with an opposing cult, The Sparrows.
Demola Diran is a character that the readers will dislike but sympathize with all the same for his misguided actions.
* **OVIE AND BUNMI**
Ovie and Bunmi are side characters briefly mentioned in the book. They are introduced as Keziah and Demola’s course mates as well as Keziah’s friends. Although they were friends, they criticized Keziah for her firm rejection of Demola and encouraged her to accept his sincerity as he had proven to them that he is trustworthy, but that led her down an unfortunate path.
1. **POINTS OF DIVERGENCE**

The points of divergence between the published and film version of ‘Good Morning, Sodom’, by Solomon A. Edebor are:

* Demola’s involvement with the Red Sparrows. It was stated in the book that he was a newly recruited member but, in the film, he was already a member.
* Demola’s parents. Towards the end of the film, when Keziah and her parents visited Engineer Diran, he mentioned that his wife was *no more* which is contrary to what was stated in the book.
* The scene of Keziah experiencing contractions at home was not present in the book.