

The Angels Weep Study Guide

The Angels Weep by Wilbur Smith

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Plot Summary

The Angels Weep by Wilbur Smith is the third book in a trilogy that chronicles the generations of the Ballantyne family, and those who most influenced their paths in life. Beginning with Zouga Ballantyne, the family patriarch, this story takes off at a point in his life when he has already lived on the African continent for some time. He has raised two sons who each in their own way follow in his footsteps. Ralph and Zouga travel through Africa together, searching for the city of Zimbabwe to stake and claim the gold Zouga has already seen once there. The Matabele tribe had banned trespass on the sacred ground of the city of the dead, but they had long since been driven from the area as men of greed and power swept through the continent without conscience.

They find and claim Harkness mine and go on to be part of the installation of railways, telegraph lines and pave the way to civilization. However, the Matabele and remaining natives in Africa have not forgotten their heritage or their pride. They rise up again to battle the white man and his incessant greed, but are driven back once more to the wilderness by Ralph Ballantyne and a group of men that become known as the Ballantyne Scouts. In daring infiltrations, they manage to beat the Matabele tribe again, sending them into the hills where many starve but the remaining members do not lose hope completely. A treaty is negotiated and a peace of sorts is established, but this is not the end.

In part two, the generations have grown, and Zouga and his children are long dead. The time is 1977 and a hundred years have gone by, but the battle for supremacy in the country of Africa is not over. The descendants of King Lobengula are part of the Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA) and continue the battle to undermine and eventually oust the hold white men have on their country. The Ballantyne scouts are resurrected by Roland Ballantyne, the grandson of Ralph who formed the original Scouts to beat back the Matabele uprising that killed his wife and child. Though Roland is successful and manages to strike fear in the hearts of many revolutionaries, he and his scouts are lured to their deaths by Comrade Tungata Zebwe who is a direct descendant of Bazo the Axe and King Lobengula himself. Tungata, formerly Samson Kumalo but renamed after he joins the revolution, becomes leader of his people and minister of his country after war makes monsters of all men. It is a story of greed, honor, revolution, love and death, and Smith keeps the reader riveted through it all.



Part One - 1895: Pages 1 - 35

Part One - 1895: Pages 1 - 35 Summary

The Angels Weep by Wilbur Smith is the third book in a trilogy that chronicles the generations of the Ballantyne family, and those who most influenced their paths in life. Beginning with Zouga Ballantyne, the family patriarch, this story takes off at a point in his life when he has already lived on the African continent for some time. He has raised two sons who each in their own way follow in his footsteps. Ralph and Zouga travel through Africa together, searching for the city of Zimbabwe to stake and claim the gold Zouga has already seen once there. The Matabele tribe had banned trespass on the sacred ground of the city of the dead, but they had long since been driven from the area as men of greed and power swept through the continent without conscience.

They find the city, due east by almost eighty miles they again locate the ancient shafts. The access holes are small, and Jan Cheroot is lowered more than sixty feet to the bottom where he finds the skeletons of the previous crew. Nervous, Cheroot wants to be hauled out, but Zouga and Ralph convince him to explore the shaft and bring a sample back up with him. When he is pulled to the surface, the sample he returns with shows gold. Excited, the men work through the night to establish their claims before anyone else arrives. Four days later, they have successfully claimed the entire area, and can rest. Ralph's agreement with Zouga is that he will handle the machinery and provide the men required to work what they dub the Harkness Mine, named after Tom Harkness, the man who first showed Zouga the area.

It is a two day ride back to Ralph and Cathy's elaborate and portable camp home. She is as overjoyed to see Ralph as Louise is to see Zouga. After enthusiastically greeting Cathy and their children, Ralph's joy is somewhat diminished by the extravagant coach he notices in their encampment. Without even seeing the occupants, he knows that it can only belong to Cecil Rhodes. Ralph resents the constant reminder that the British South African Company he owns has claim to fifty percent of all mining efforts in Matabeleland, including the new claims in Zimbabwe. They spend the evening bringing Cecil up to date on conditions that include the Matabele indunas, the mining prospects and conditions in the area. When the evening is over, Ralph's head is full of big dreams and ideas.

Part One - 1895: Pages 1 - 35 Analysis

Zouga Ballantyne, son Ralph and companion Hottentot Jan Cheroot set out for the city of Zimbabwe, and then from there search for and find the ancient mines that are eight days due east. The access holes are so small that only Jan Cheroot is able to fit. Zouga and Ralph lower him more than sixty feet before he reaches the bottom, and when he sees the skeletons of the former miners, he begs to be pulled up. They convince him to explore the shaft to it's end, and collect a sample of rock before they bring him up with a



sample that proves gold still exists. Excited, they spend the next four days staking the area, claiming it and then naming it Harkness Mine after the man who first showed it to Zouga.

They return to Ralph and Cathy`s extravagant and elegant portable camp home. She is overjoyed to see him, as is Zouga's wife Louise to see him, but Ralph's joy is diminished by the sight of the expensive carriage, knowing it can only belong to Cecil Rhodes. Ralph is one of the few men who does not stand in awe of Cecil, and seeing him is just a reminder that fifty percent of the mining interests in Harkness Mines will belong to him. Zouga and Ralph spend the evening bringing Cecil up to date on the status of their latest venture, as well as their ongoing projects which include the railroad Ralph is charged with building.



Part One - 1895: Pages 35 - 73

Part One - 1895: Pages 35 - 73 Summary

Ralph and Harry go back to the newly christened Harkness Mine and Harry uses his skills to plan the development and extraction of the minerals. Afterward, they spend days randomly sampling the surrounding area, but find nothing. They are about to return to camp when Ralph sees smoke. He spurs his horse in that direction leaving Harry to follow. When they get close, Bazo, the Matabele son of Gandang and grandson to the great Mzilikazi, steps out suddenly from the forest. He greets Ralph as Henshaw and Ralph is overjoyed, amazed that he is even alive. Bazo tells Ralph the smoke was from a hive he was smoking out, and Ralph convinces him to bring his wife, Tanase and son to join their camp for the night to catch up. Tanase doesn't trust Ralph, but Bazo insists it's necessary. He uses their prior relationship which borders on brotherhood to lull him into a false sense of security, turning him away from the valley he and Harry are about to enter.

Later, Bazo works his way into the valley and meets with the few remaining indunas of the Matabele tribe, including his father Gandang. He shows them one of the one thousand spears already created and promises five thousand before the 'great storm.' The indunas ask when the 'great storm' will begin, but Bazo insists they must wait to be summoned for the prophesy by the Imlimo. Then, Bazo and several other indunas go to her cave. She gives them a three part prophesy regarding their battle with the white men. Bazo is inspiring in his vision of the great storm to come, but the Imlimo's confusing prophesy gives them even more to think about.

When Ralph and Harry return to camp, Cecil Rhodes has taken over much to Cathy's dismay. Even Louise asks to be taken back to Kings's Lynn. Ralph is oddly undisturbed by Cecil's presence and assures Cathy things will be better soon, asking her when her sisters are expected to arrive.

Part One - 1895: Pages 35 - 73 Analysis

Ralph and Harry go back to Harkness Mines where Harry surveys and helps to plan the mine's development. Ralph would like to lure Harry away from Cecil's employ, but Harry insists he is a 'Rhodes' man. Ralph is undaunted. He convinces Harry that Cecil has likely already left his camp and there would be no harm in spending a few days randomly sampling the surrounding area. They do so, and days later, just as they prepare to go back to camp, Ralph notices smoke and rides over to investigate. When they get close to the area, his friend and Matabele brother Bazo steps out of the woods in front of them. He greets Ralph as Henshaw and concocts a story to explain the smoke they had seen. He behaves as though all is normal. He wants to lure Ralph away from the area before he stumbles onto the forges that have been remaking the assegais that were taken from the Matabele. Bazo is readying for war with the white men, and is



prepared to kill Ralph and Harry if necessary, but would prefer to seduce them into a false sense of security instead.

Inside, he is still planning the battle to come, referred to as the 'great storm.' Ralph offers him work, and Bazo puts him off, telling him he will see him after the rainy season of the great storm. Tanase, who is filled with visions that leave her mistrusting Ralph, understands the double meaning immediately and relaxes realizing that Bazo has not lost sight of their objective. Later, when Ralph and Harry leave, Bazo, Tanase and their son go back into the valley and Bazo meets with the other Indunas that still remain of the Matabele tribe. He pays homage to those killed in battle and then inspires the group by showing them one of the new assegais and reminding them that the Matabele nation is not dead. He promises that before the day of the great storm arrives, they will have more than five thousand of their assegais once more. This time, he assures them, they will strike quietly and quickly, over and over, accomplishing their goals without a frontal assault that has no chance of succeeding. It is a different tactic for the Matabele who have always used a frontal and very vocal attack. Now he tells them they are to be the fleas that insinuate themselves right under the white men's noses and attack without warning before disappearing again. They agree. When the Umlimo summons them, a selection of Indunas go to her cave and listen to her prophesy. It is confusing, as her prophesies usually are, but they believe the meaning will come clear when the time is right.

Ralph and Harry return to camp and find that instead of leaving, Cecil has taken over. He even kicks Cathy out of her own kitchen, assuring her that Jordan knows his likes and dislikes better. Cathy wants him to leave, and Louise is so disturbed by his continued presence that she returns to King's Lynn, but Ralph seems unperturbed. He simply asks Cathy when her two sisters are due to arrive.



Part One - 1895: Pages 73 - 109

Part One - 1895: Pages 73 - 109 Summary

Cathy's sisters arrive the day after Ralph and Harry return, and have exactly the effect he is hoping for. A five minute visit and introductions with the young women are enough to have Cecil pushing Jordan to pack for departure that evening. Ralph is pleased with Harry's response as well. The women are beautiful and charming enough to capture his attention and Ralph convinces Cecil that he needs Harry for a little while longer so that he will stay even if Cecil leaves. Jordan warns Ralph not to cross Cecil.

At Khami Mission, Robyn tries to decide how to prove her theory regarding malaria and its transmission. She takes blood from a patient sick with the fever, and injects it into herself, having quit her course of quinine days earlier. She gives careful instructions to the girls as to how to document and treat her when the fever strikes, despite their strong reservations. Mungo St. John and Harry Mellow are playing billiards when Victoria hurries in and announces that Mungo is needed. He finishes his shot and remains calm until Victoria adds that her mother is dying. At that, Mungo drops everything and races to the mission, asking Harry to see Victoria home. He finds Robyn in very dire straits. Fever has taken over and black water soon follows despite elevated doses of quinine administered by Elizabeth. He stays by her side, goading her into fighting for health, although she is ready to give up more than once. He reminds her that if she dies, he will raise their son, which causes her to fight anew. Out of one hundred patients treated for this disease, all but three will likely end up in the ground. Vicky doesn't know Robyn is so ill, and convinces Harry to take a detour on the way back to the mission - becoming a woman in the process. Robyn is only lucid for brief periods each day, and when the fever finally breaks the first thing she uses her strength for is to throw Mungo out. Her love is as strong an attraction to him as her hatred for him fills her with self loathing. He leaves once he is convinced she will recover.

Part One - 1895: Pages 73 - 109 Analysis

Ralph Ballantyne has learned well from his father. He knows how to read a situation and manipulate it to his advantage, using any and every edge he can to accomplish his goals. When he realizes that he needs Harry Mellow to further his own mining interests, he tries to convince him to leave Cecil's employment, but Harry turns him down. Ralph encourages Cathy to invite her sisters to come visit, knowing that two things will likely happen once the women arrive. The first is that Harry will likely fall for one if not both of the Codrington twins and when he does his employment with Rhodes will be terminated, and the second is that the very arrival of the twins will cause enough feminine presence to have Cecil pick up stakes and leave his camp. Ralph is right on both counts.

Robyn Codrington is a staunch advocate for the Matabele people and the African land. She often clashes with both the African government, her own husband, Mungo St. John,



and the British Medical Association. Her latest paper to the latter explains her views that having treated many cases, Malaria is transmitted by the blood and likely by mosquitoes. Her paper is immediately disagreed with, so Robyn sets out to prove her theory by injecting herself with the infected blood of one of her patients. She does so after stopping her own use of quinine for several days first to make herself more susceptible, and the injection definitely proves her statements. She becomes sick soon after her injection, and though the twins are given copious instructions as to how to care for her during this time, it is not enough. At first, the twins conspire against Robyn, using her illness as a reason to summon Mungo, whom they both have always liked and supported despite their mother's assertion he is the devil incarnate. Vicky rides to town to inform Mungo that her mother is dying, not realizing there is more truth to her statements than she knows. Mungo, who loves Robyn with such intensity that he sent her husband to his death in order to free her, leaves immediately for the mission, leaving Vicky in Harry's care, and tasking him with getting her home. Mungo arrives to find that Robyn is indeed at death's door and spends many days nursing her from Malaria through Black water and then finally to a semblance of consciousness.

Meanwhile, Vicky sees her opportunity and waylays Harry on the way back to the mission. By the time they finally arrive, Robyn is deathly ill, but Vicky has accomplished her goal of securing Harry as her own. As soon as Robyn is well enough to recognize Mungo, she throws him out.



Part One - 1895: Pages 109 - 150

Part One - 1895: Pages 109 - 150 Summary

Mungo leaves at Robyn's insistence, and reaching the crest he notices the sky turning an unusual color in the distance. Still disturbed by his time with Robyn, and replaying it in his mind, he is only partially aware of the cloud until with some speed it descends on him, forcing him to return to the Mission again. The cloud of locusts is so thick he has difficulty finding his way back, despite the well marked road. He helps them gather pots, pans and blankets as they race for the field in an effort to save the crops, but when the locusts finally take to the sky again, there is nothing green left behind.

Gandang's senior wife Juba hurries back to the kraal with two young girls in attendance, marveling at the extent of the destruction along the way. Gandang sends the men with the cattle to find new grazing areas, and sits with his favorite wife. Juba asks about their son Bazo and Gandang shares the dream of their coming revenge. Juba refuses to take part and he strides off disappointed. She waits all night but he doesn't summon her so she cries herself to sleep. The next morning, Mungo and fifty newly deputized B.S.A. police march into Gandang's kraal. Mungo insists that Gandang give him two hundred strong men to work the Harkness mine. Gandang refuses, and they are at a standoff. Juba's attendants left the previous evening, headed for their men in the hills, but are stopped by two of Mungo's new police men. When they refuse to show them where the men are, one of the soldiers rapes the intended bride for Gandang's nephew. The second girl makes a run for it and is shot in the back. The bride to be, Ruth is also killed. The soldiers return them to Gandang's kraal, and after seeing their dead bodies, even Juba is convinced to do her part in the coming campaign. Three days later, Bazo returns and learning of the deaths knows the white men has only further convinced their armies.

Meanwhile, Cecil Rhodes, Zouga, Ralph Ballantyne and hundreds of other guests make their way to the Khami Mission for the wedding of Harry and Vicky. As Ralph suspects, when Harry refuses to break the engagement, Cecil fires him. The entourage arrives, riding through crowds of Matabele who call out with almost worship. The gaiety stops when Robyn opens the door and sees Mungo St. John.

Part One - 1895: Pages 109 - 150 Analysis

Robyn insists that Mungo leave as soon as she is conscious of his presence. He does, but is forced to return shortly afterward when he runs into a locust invasion that blots out the sky. He tries to help save the crops but no amount of distraction can keep the locusts from removing every green leaf, bud and shrub in sight, leaving the land scarred and without vegetation when they finally lift off again. Juba leaves the mission shortly afterward to return to Gandang's kraal, aware that this is a sign. The devastation is everywhere. Scorched land can be seen again - the reminder of when Lobengula burned his village and left, and Gandang sends his men to greener pastures to graze



their remaining cattle. She sits with her husband, and he shares with her the vision of what is to come. Bazo, their son, is in the midst of preparations, he tells her, and she will be called upon to help when the time comes. He asks that she organize the women so that when summoned they will bring their men the new assegais being forged, wrapped in disguise. Though they are unlikely to be searched, Juba still refuses explaining to Gandang that now that she has converted religions she believes that her new Christian God is a God of peace not war. Gandang is so disappointed in her response that he can't even continue their discussion and strides off, leaving her sitting there alone. He does not return, and does not summon her that night, despite their recent separation while Juba had been at the mission. She finally falls asleep, but is plagued by nightmares of war and bloodshed, waking to sounds of distress. Before she can gather her wits, she is forcibly hauled out of her sleeping mat and corralled with the other women and children.

Mungo St. John is leading the fifty deputized men who are there to insist that Gandang surrender two hundred men to work the new mine. When Gandang refuses, Mungo becomes angry and makes it clear that he is willing and able to force the issue. That point is driven home for Gandang when two of Mungo's men return with the bodies of Juba's two young attendants draped across the saddle. Both had been shot dead, and the story given by the soldiers is that they tried to kill them. The truth is that while one was raped, the other made an effort to escape and was shot in the back. Gandang doesn't see it at the time, but three days later when Bazo returns, he assures his father that this action by the soldiers will only solidify the Matabele tribe in their quest to overthrow the white men.

Later, Cecil and his entourage, Zouga, and Ralph along with hundreds of other guests make their way to Khami mission to share in the wedding festivities of Harry Mellow and Victoria Codrington. It is all part of Ralph's grand design, knowing full well that if Harry were to fall for either twin, his job with Cecil would be over. As soon as Harry refuses to call off his engagement, Cecil does fire him, but Ralph is ready and waiting with a job for his future brother in law. The wedding threatens to be the event of the decade. Robyn opens the door to greet her new guests as they arrive, but the smile quickly leaves her face when she sees Cecil and his crowd in attendance. He immediately opens champagne in an effort to be the focus of attention, and manages to accomplish it until Ralph quickly steps in with a wagon load of champagne to contribute to the wedding festivities.



Part One - 1895: Pages 150 - 195

Part One - 1895: Pages 150 - 195 Summary

Ralph convinces Harry to take Victoria to Wankie's country, telling everyone they are on a buffalo hunt, but he is really after the coal seam he knows exists. When Bazo leads them there, it takes two weeks to peg the claims and then they start a back fire to trap the buffalo in an area where a shooting spree then occurs. Ralph is almost gored, and loses a horse in the process, but at the end almost four hundred bullocks are dead. Cathy asks how long such killing can continue before all of the buffalo are gone, but Ralph tells her man will not be responsible for wiping out the buffalo herds. Instead, out of the north, the rindepest virus strikes and without warning, the buffalo are dying within two days of contracting the virus. Ralph and Harry are heading back to Bulawayo with wagon loads of buffalo hides when rindepest strikes and their oxen die. Cattle fall dead over night. At first Ralph suspects flame lily is the culprit but the following day he sees giraffe falling down in their tracks. Ralph takes Harry aside and tells him to make his way back however he can. He takes four of the fastest horses and heads for Kimberley, cutting the telegraph wires in several places as he goes. The oxen and cattle die in alarming rates and the wagons they pull are left behind. Bazo can hardly contain his glee as he recognizes the Umlimo's prophesy.

Ralph gets to Kimberley, warning Zouga on the way, and sells his transport company to his largest competitor, effective immediately. Then barely catches Cecil leaving on a train bound for London. Cecil is expecting him, has a stateroom prepared and even Jordan can't look at Ralph as Cecil explains to him how he will not get his coal claims. All Ralph retains is the rights to the Harkness mine. He struggles to hide his contempt from Rhodes as the megalomaniac spends the rest of the evening sharing his plans for immortality. Later, Ralph stumbles to his stateroom, consumes a bottle of whiskey and heads to the saloon car for more. On the way, he walks straight into Jordan who is coming out of Cecil's stateroom half undressed. The look of shame on his face tells Ralph everything. Filled with disgust, Ralph jumps off the train in the dark of night. He swears he will either destroy Cecil or be destroyed by him in his effort.

Part One - 1895: Pages 150 - 195 Analysis

Ralph convinces Harry to take Vicky to Wankie's country for their honeymoon along with Ralph, Cathy and Bazo. He uses a buffalo hunt as the reason, but really wants to peg a coal mine. Both the hunt and the claim are wildly successful, though Cathy is disturbed by the numbers of buffalo that are killed. Ralph convinces her that there are so many that man will not make a dent in them and on that he is correct. Instead, from out of the north, the rindepest virus strikes with a vengeance, killing all ruminants in its path. The devastation is total, killing oxen and cattle alike. From one day to the next, entire herds are left sick or dead. When Ralph realizes the scope of the tragedy he tells Harry and Bazo to continue with the wagons to Bulawayo, and taking four horses he heads out to



try to minimize the damage. He cuts the telegraph wires in several areas so news of the epidemic doesn't spread, then informs Zouga so they can sell as much of their stock as possible while they are still standing. It is underhanded, but Ralph is desperate and the alternative would ruin him financially. Bazo recognizes it as the second of three prophecies the Umlimo spoke of, and can hardly contain his excitement.

Ralph reaches Kimberley and completes the sale of his transport company before having lunch with Jordan who inadvertently lets it slip that Ralph's coal mining claims are in jeopardy. He warns Ralph again not to cross Cecil forcing him to choose between them. Ralph doesn't understand the warning at the time, but it comes back to him later. He meets with Cecil's lawyers who doublespeak their way through almost enough time to allow Cecil to make a clean escape on the train headed for London before Ralph realizes their intent. Quickly he borrows a horse and catches up with the departing train, hopping on and leaving the horse to graze alongside as the train pulls away. Jordan and Cecil expected him and are not surprised when he shows himself. Cecil explains his position and his leverage quite clearly and Ralph is forced to acquiesce, but the incident leaves him bitter and vengeful. As soon as he can make his escape, he goes to his stateroom, downs a bottle of whiskey, and still sober makes his way to the saloon car. On the way, he runs into Jordan who is just leaving Cecil's stateroom in a state of partial dress, and the look on his face of guilt and shame is enough to tell Ralph everything he wants to know and much more. Filled with loathing for Cecil and disgust for his brother, Ralph jumps off the train, unable to face either one. As dawn breaks, he vows he will destroy Cecil, or himself trying.



Part One - 1895: Pages 196 - 229

Part One - 1895: Pages 196 - 229 Summary

Ralph checks Harry's progress at the mine, and Bazo tells Ralph that he only brought twenty men because the rest refuse to come without their wives. Ralph promises to fix the situation with Mungo, and Bazo leaves to get the remaining men the next morning. He meets Tanase on the way back to Gandang's kraal who gives him the royal greeting reserved for kings and a mole skin to remind him of who he is. They can hear the guns that kill the remaining cattle in an effort to stop rinderpest from spreading further. Bazo questions Mungo's logic, mocking his idea that the healthy cattle must be killed to 'save' them, and Mungo is livid. Later, Bazo meets with the indunas and one by one gives them their instructions. He insists that all of the white people must be killed - including Juba's friend Nomusa and his friend, Henshaw. Bazo swears he will kill Henshaw himself. One by one they salute him and leave. When Ralph sees Bazo next, he is leading more than the promised two hundred men.

Ralph is summoned to King's Lynn and Cecil Rhodes is also there. Again he buries his anger and goes in to find an assortment of important people gathered knowing Rhodes likely orchestrated it. Cecil wants to deliver the continent to the Queen but is still held back by the South African Republic. Paul Kruger is building a corps of German artillery and fearing they will align themselves with Berlin, Rhodes goes to Pretoria to see him but is put off. Rhodes then goes to London and comes to an understanding with the colonial secretary, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. He has details of men, weapons, and ammunition worked out, and asks Ralph to provide transportation. Ralph outwardly agrees to serve his queen and country, hiding the revelation that this is his opportunity to get Rhodes back. A force of six hundred men are to be unleashed to fight Kruger and take the southern tip. While the men discuss logistics, Ralph's mind works on a plot to bring down the man he hates. When Ralph returns to Cathy, he promises her that he will finally build her the house she has always wanted. In fact, he tells her they will be rich before Christmas. Then he boards a train for Johannesburg, leaving a letter for Cathy that she is to open only when she receives his telegram. Unable to wait, she opens it to find instructions to send a telegraph to Zouga telling him his wife is deathly ill and he must return to King's Lynn. Suddenly she is afraid.

Part One - 1895: Pages 196 - 229 Analysis

Ralph goes to Harkness Mines, but finds Bazo working with only twenty men. He tells Ralph that Mungo refuses to allow the men to bring their wives, and as such most refuse to come. Ralph promises to fix it, pay them more, and even feed them better, so Bazo leaves the following morning to bring back the men and their wives. He meets Tanase half way there and she gives him the royal greeting usually reserved for kings. She reminds him of who he is by giving him a mole skin. At Gandang's kraal, Mungo is telling the herd tenders that all cattle must be surrendered for slaughter to stop the



rindepest from spreading any further. Bazo interrupts him, looking for clarification, amazed that Mungo wants to kill their healthy cattle to save them. In mocking tone he agitates Mungo and inspires the other indunas. Still, they have no choice, and watch tearfully as the cattle are slaughtered and burned. Later, Bazo meets with all indunas and gives them their assignments. Each group is to eliminate all white people in their midst when the time comes. There are to be no exceptions. Juba is distraught and begs for Nomusa's life but Bazo will not be moved. The wives follow their men, weapons wrapped in bedding and carried along.

Ralph attends a meeting at King's Lynn where a group of powerful men make some dangerous decisions. Cecil convinces them that it is time to deliver the continent to the Queen, and to do so, the leader of the southern tip, Kruger and his army must be eliminated. Elaborate plans including six hundred men, weapons, and ammunition are already in place, and Cecil asks Ralph if he will provide transportation. Ralph hides his emotions as he agrees to the plan, but inside he is making plans of his own. In the back of his mind, he is scheming to bring Cecil to ruin and it is difficult to disguise his feelings. When he returns to Cathy later, he tells her that after Christmas he will finally get her the house she has always wanted, and they will be rich. He leaves the next morning for Johannesburg, giving Cathy a letter that he tells her to open only when she gets his telegram. She can't wait and opens it to find instructions to telegraph Zouga and tell him his wife is deathly ill and he must return to King's Lynn. Cathy has a frightening premonition.



Part One - 1895: Pages 229 - 261

Part One - 1895: Pages 229 - 261 Summary

Ralph goes to Johannesburg to check the shipment of bolt action rifles and assures Colonel Frank Rhodes he can deliver the same amount weekly for the next five weeks. They discuss details of the attack and Ralph commits them to paper. Ralph goes to a stockbroker and asks him to sell two hundred thousand shares of two companies short - Consolidated Goldfields and the British South Africa Company. David Silver pales at the size of the transaction, knowing the risks but Ralph's only condition is that no one be able to trace the transaction back to him. Then Ralph rides to the Boer homestead of Paul Kruger, and tells him about the plans being made against them. Zouga is with Dr Jameson in Pitsani at the edge of the Kalahari Desert, waiting for word to attack. Telegraphs tell them to wait until Johannesburg has been captured, but when Jameson hears that there may be a traitor in their midst, he and Zouga make the decision to cut the telegraph lines and proceed. Ralph sends Cathy his prearranged telegraph. Cathy's belly is heavy with the daughter she carries. She is out painting when the telegraph operator shows up with Ralph's telegraph and she asks him to send the one from Ralph to Zouga in return. Soon after, word spreads like wildfire that Jameson and Zouga along with others have been arrested. Ralph is stunned. He made a killing selling shares short, but the news is dampened by Zouga's arrest. Ralph is having trouble reaching Cathy. Learning of the cut telegraph lines, and the Matabele uprising, he is frantic.

At the Khami mission, Elizabeth comes in and tells Robyn and Juba soldiers on horseback are riding past the church. They witness the silent passing and Robyn looks up at the stars. She tells Juba the stars she refers to as Manatassi's four sons are called the Southern Cross as well, and Juba pales, suddenly wanting to return to Gandang's kraal. This is the final sign - 'the cross has eaten up the hornless cattle,' she realizes means the horsemen have gone south in the night. She tells Bazo, and he dispatches Gandang to kill them. He asks where Bakela and where Henshaw are and makes sure Tanase knows what to do. Cathy and Jonathan rise that morning to find the grooms, kitchen staff and workers gone. She takes Jonathan to the telegraph office to find Braithwaite dead. Isazi comes down the hill and she begs him to take Jonathan to the mine to keep him safe, knowing with the pangs of labor, she will not make it. The Zulu argues at first, but leaves, and Cathy makes her way back to her tent. Her water breaks, and she passes out briefly, waking to see Bazo in front of her. Believing he is a friend, she doesn't use her weapon, but Bazo kills her, ordering her infant killed as well, and looks for the boy.

Part One - 1895: Pages 229 - 261 Analysis

Ralph checks on the delivery of weapons, and promises that he can keep making the same size deliveries for the next five weeks. He learns more details regarding the



overthrow of Kruger's government, and chastises Frank for his constant telegraph transmissions. He is playing his part perfectly.

The soldiers file past the church at the Khami mission silent considering their numbers, and Robyn, Elizabeth and Juba watch them go by along with many from the infirmary. When the last is gone, Robyn and Juba compare names for constellations and Juba is surprised to learn that the one she refers to as Manatassi's four sons is called the Southern Cross by the white men. She immediately recognizes it as the last sign from the Umlimo and hurries back to Gandang's kraal to tell them. Bazo is ready, and begins dispatching his warriors to different destinations to wipe out all they come across. Gandang himself is sent to the mission to kill Robyn and Elizabeth, and Bazo volunteers himself to dispose of Cathy, Johnathan and his friend and brother Ralph. He reminds Tanase of her part, and one by one the indunas repeat back their instructions and leave referring to him as king. Tanase does as well, with obvious pride.

Ralph continues to help with arms and munitions and on the side he quietly approaches a stockbroker who he is assured can conduct business with secrecy. He asks David Silver to take two hundred thousand shares each from Consolidated Goldfields and the British South Africa Company and sell them short. David warns him of the potential financial folly, but Ralph knows exactly what he is doing. He knows what is coming, and stands to make a fortune if this all goes right. After, he rides to the homestead of Paul Kruger and convinces him of what is being planned. At first skeptical, Paul asks why Ralph turns in his own countrymen, and when Ralph finally admits his interest is financial, Paul believes him. Ralph then sends the telegraph to Cathy so that she can send the one that calls Zouga home. When Cathy gets the telegraph, she is outside with Jonathan painting, and immediately pens her reply, but fate intervenes. Zouga is with Dr. Jameson and the soldiers waiting for word to go ahead, but instead, telegraphs telling them obliquely to wait are all that come. When word that a traitor may be among them arrives, Zouga tells Jameson that either they go, or go home. Jameson agrees and tells him to cut the telegraph lines. They ignore orders to wait, and Zouga never gets the telegraph that would send him home. Instead, they ride straight into the waiting army of Paul Kruger and are arrested. When news of his arrest reaches Ralph, even the word that his stock scheme has turned him into a millionaire doesn't raise his spirits. He tries to telegraph Cathy and learns the wires have been down for days. He is told that the Matabele have risen, and his worry is compounded. He knows he needs to get home.

Cathy and Jonathan get up to find their camp deserted. In the eerie silence, Cathy takes Jonathan down to the telegraph office, but there is no life there either. Braithwaite and the others have been killed. Isazi comes down the hill and Cathy's contractions start on the way back up. She gives Jonathan to Isazi and begs him to take her son to the mine where he might be safe. He argues at first, but sees the reason for it, admiring her courage and heart. She manages to make it back to her tent, and passes out for a short time. When she wakes, she sees Bazo standing over her and is relieved, believing help has come. Bazo wastes no time killing her, and orders her infant mid delivery killed as well. Then he hunts for her son.



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Ralph persuades the locomotive driver using his rifle to go further north after they see the first bodies at Plumtree siding. He spells the stoker arriving two hours faster than usual, but at Kimberley the driver won't wait for Ralph while he looks for Cathy and Jonathan and is already well on his way south before Ralph gets to the top of the hill. He finds Cathy and their unborn baby girl both dead in their tent, and races through the camp seeking Jonathan, but finds no one.

Juba sneaks to the mission to warn Robyn who doesn't take Juba seriously, but luckily, Gandang chooses not to strike at first light. He waits and before long, they see Mungo St. John. The General is riding for the mission, and when he gets there, Robyn still refuses to leave, but he tosses her in the wagon, threatening to tie her up if necessary. Looking back they see the mission on fire. Matabele warriors meet them on the road and Mungo fights valiantly, but is killed. Elizabeth looks Gandang in the eye, puts her arm around Elizabeth and picks up the reins. Gandang and his men do not stop her.

Ralph rides to Harkness mines, calling his son at intervals along the way. Vultures are everywhere, and bodies are piled at the mine's entrance. He calls out and Harry appears with Jonathan, Vicky, and Isazi. They decide to head for Bulawayo, seeing bodies everywhere along the way. When they arrive, the barricades open and Vicky sees Robyn, Louise and Jan Cheroot. Now, with wagons in laager, they wait for the Matabele. Ralph gathers some men and plans an attack of his own. They darken their faces and hands, and don the garb of the Matabele, adding only a white cow tail tassel necklace. Jan Cheroot helps him to recruit Hottentots, and they are joined by other Matabele formerly recruited by Mungo who are in as much danger from the Matabele warriors as the white people are. They trot directly into a Matabele camp with Ralph in the lead, singing a Matabele fighting song. Ralph distracts them long enough in the dark to ensure all of the warriors are gathered before they open fire and kill them. They reclaim the stolen horses and go back to a hero's welcome at Bulawayo, though Ralph feels sick inside. That ruse will not work again.

Tanase heeds a summons from Bazo, leaving Tungata with Juba and the rest of the women and children. Once Ralph and his men are in place, Jan Cheroot appears to the children like a wizard. He has a sack of candy and ribbons that he hands out, telling a tale of pure fiction as he lures them out. He tells them the white men are dead, and all are called to Bulawayo where more treasures await. Eager, they all follow him as he prances down the path, delivering them right into Ralph's waiting forces. Only Juba and Tungata - son of Bazo lag behind as Juba's age and size slow them down. When they come into sight, Ralph gives the order to begin shooting the Maxim, but Harry is unable to. Ralph takes his place, and avenges Cathy and his daughter.



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Ralph is so desperate to get to Cathy after he finds out about the Matabele that he forces a locomotive driver to take him to Kimberley. On the way, the bodies can be seen, and Ralph helps shovel coal to speed the train's progress, but it is all to no avail. When he gets to the base camp, he asks the engineer to wait for him and his family, but he refuses, and barely waits for Ralph to head up the hill before heading south again as fast as he can. Ralph finds Cathy, but it is much too late. She and their unborn daughter have been killed, and in desperation he looks for Jonathan but doesn't find him. In fact, he sees no one alive. He fires into the air, hoping to hear answering shots, but there are none, so he proceeds to Harkness.

Robyn and Elizabeth would likely also have been killed by Gandang, but Juba sneaks off first and warns her to leave. She ignores the warning, but Mungo's love for her is so strong that despite the danger he commandeers a wagon and races to the mission to save them. He has to force Robyn to get into the wagon, but promises her he will tie her up if need be, and she finally relents. Elizabeth is quicker to make up her mind, trusting Mungo, and leaving everything behind they head for Bulawayo. By the time they have ridden to the top of the hill, the mission is on fire. Gandang and his men intercept Mungo and the wagon, killing him and the soldiers with him, though he fights valiantly to save Robyn's life. When all but Robyn and Elizabeth are dead, she defiantly looks straight ahead, picks up the reins and starts forward. Gandang spares them, letting them leave despite Bazo's instructions to the contrary.

When Ralph reaches the mine, he is partially frantic, and partially hoping to attract the Matabele warriors and die himself. His grief is so strong, he acts without thinking and goes into the mine entrance, almost getting himself shot by the few survivors who have barricaded themselves there. Among them, to his relief, he finds Jonathan, Vicky, Harry and Isazi. Jonathan tells Ralph he is sorry that he was unable to protect his mother, and Ralph resolves to avenge her. He decides the best course of action is to head for Bulawayo, and the rest quickly agree. They leave after eating. The trip is difficult, with bodies everywhere. Ralph hopes that they will find life of any kind in Bulawayo, and is not disappointed. They are greeted by a large group of survivors, including Louise, and Jan Cheroot. Wagons have been pulled together into a laager, and supplies are shared with survivors who ride in with nothing but their lives. Ralph doesn't want to wait for the Matabele to attack, and he makes plans of his own. He dresses volunteers of like mind in Matabele clothing and leads them into a Matabele camp that night singing one of their fighting songs. He distracts them with an elaborate story about a battle with the white men until he is sure that all of the warriors are assembled.

Then, at a signal from him, his group opens fire and kills them all. Afterward, they reclaim the horses stolen by the warriors earlier, and ride back to Bulawayo to a hero's welcome - even though Ralph does not feel heroic. Knowing this ruse will not work a second time, the group decides to go after the women and children of the Matabele next. Again they use deception to lure the women and children out of the protected area they are in, and into the path of the waiting guns. Set up with a Maxim machine gun,



Harry is unable to fire on the defenseless women and children, so Ralph pushes him away and does the job himself, remembering how he found his wife and unborn daughter.



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Juba has the group in sight but her mind doesn't want to believe what her eyes are seeing. She grabs Tungata and races up the gorge. Ralph returns to camp and gets drunk. He tries to write in his journal, but only manages "War makes monsters of us all." Elizabeth goes into Ralph's tent, and sleepy fog he thinks he is with Cathy. He comes awake and realizes he isn't. Elizabeth stands, blows out the candle and removes her nightdress, telling him she has always loved him.

Zouga serves four weeks of his sentence and is released. Jordan picks him up, they have lunch, and Zouga gets onto a train for home. Jordan returns to Rhodes's home but has not been missed. Two weeks from the age of thirty, he feels he has little left to offer, and Cecil is paying a great deal of attention to the new assistant, Arnold. Jordan is jealous. Arnold's is second secretary, and Jordan originally welcomed the extra help, but now feels replaced instead of assisted. Cecil tells Jordan he won't be needing him on his trip to Bulawayo, and questions his loyalty. Arnold has set him up. Cecil dismisses Jordan despite his years of service, asking him to clear out before they return. Jordan is devastated. After Cecil and Arnold leave, he stops in front of the stone falcon he has come to think of as Panes. He prays one more time, and casts his lamp against the wall, giving himself to the flames.

Isazi tells Ralph he can find Bazo with three thousand of his amadoda in the Valley of the Goats. Ralph decides he and his fifty men will take him out in two nights time. They sneak into Bazo's camp dressed as Matabele warriors. Ralph listens to Bazo's plan to take the laager and when Bazo tells them to sleep and refresh themselves for the coming battle he lays down in his bedroll. He finally creeps to the nearest warrior and stabs him. When the man screams, he screams as well, yelling "Devils are killing me" and "Witchcraft." His men are doing the same thing at fifty other fires in the valley. Steeped in superstition, half of the men run, and those who stay are dealt with. Ralph hears Bazo's voice and goes to him, claiming his loyalty. When he is close enough, he grabs Tanase forcing Bazo to throw his assegai in the fire. Over two hundred bodies are reported to Ralph as he quietly ties rope together to finish what he started. He hangs Bazo and his wife Tanase, but Tanase's vision is not quite correct. Ralph does not smile. The indunas scatter in the hills, left to starve just as certainly as Cecil Rhodes is forced towards bankruptcy.

It is almost a year before Louise and Zouga return to King's Lynn. The house has been looted, but they are in high spirits till they hear a squawk from the poultry. Zouga carefully approaches and finds a woman and a child. When he brings them in, Louise recognizes Juba and her grandson Tungata Zebiwe. They are starving, and Louise asks if all Matabele suffer the same fate. Juba admits the younger and weaker already succumb to hunger and Louise is quick to feed them both. Then everyone goes to Bulawayo to see Cecil Rhodes with the message Juba has brought down from all of the



indunas. Cecil is to come unarmed and unescorted but for three men. Rhodes is nervous, but sees no alternative. One of his final accomplishments is to go into the hills with Zouga, a journalist and a doctor and negotiate a peace. Ralph and Harry begin taking gold out of Harkness mine. Vicky is as excited as they are, and she now carries Harry's child. Robyn begins to rebuild the mission, feeling as young as she did when she first arrived, and Juba helps, bringing Tungata Zebiwe so that Robyn can teach him to read and write. Cecil Rhodes finally dies, his heart giving out, and is buried in the Matopos hills. His funeral is attended by many white and the Matabele give him a royal send off never given to a white man before... "Bayete!" The sendoff of a king.

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Juba and Tungata barely escape the fate of the other women and children, and only because Juba's weight and health slowed her down. She disappears with Tungata, and Ralph returns to camp. He does not feel as vindicated as he expected to, and drinks until he passes out trying to forget what he's done. Elizabeth goes to him in the night, and confesses she loves him and always had, and his need and misery is so strong that he takes her to his bed and she willingly joins him.

Cecil hires an assistant for Jordan, who has designs on Jordan's job. He begins by making himself indispensable to Cecil, using equipment that Jordan has no knowledge of, and anticipating Cecil's needs. Jordan realizes that he is getting older, and that Arnold is the same as he used to be. He is young and handsome and eager to please. So eager, in fact that he finds private correspondence that Jordan wrote to Ralph after Ralph caught him coming out of Cecil's compartment on the train. The letter was full of remorse and shame, and begs Ralph's understanding. Arnold forges a second page that denounces Cecil and tells Ralph that his family will always come first. When he presents this forgery to Cecil, there is little left to discuss in Cecil's mind. Jordan goes to pick Zouga up after he is released from jail, and after having lunch with him, sees him onto a train for home before returning to Cecil's mansion. When he gets there, Cecil confronts and then fires him, unwilling to listen to Jordan. He tells him that when he and Arnold return from Bulawayo - a trip Jordan was supposed to go on - Jordan is to have cleared out his things and left. Jordan is devastated. After they leave, he wanders around the empty house, remembering the years he has been there and then after kneeling before the stone statue he has come to think of as Panes one more time, he throws a lantern at the wall and allows the flames to consume him.

Isazi is ever loyal to Ralph. He finds Bazo for him, and provides him with details including how large his army of warriors is, and even when they plan to attack. Ralph doesn't wait. He assembles his men and attacks them first. Though he only has an army of fifty men, and Bazo has three thousand, Ralph knows a great deal about their way of life, and their superstitions, and uses the information against them. Their numbers make it easy for Ralph and his men to slip into the valley in disguise and mingle with the warriors, each taking a separate camp fire. When Ralph gives the signal, they all attack together and in the dark, they scream about devils and witches. Most of the men take to the woods in fear, and those that remain are killed by Ralph and his men. He works his



way around until he finds Bazo and Tanase. In the dark, he stands up and claims his loyalty, getting closer. Then he grabs Tanase and uses Bazo's love for her to subdue him as well. He hangs them both, and when he is done, his men report that over two hundred of Bazo's warriors are dead. The rest are scattered in the hills and left to starve. Ralph's men, known as Ballantyne's Scouts, continue to chase them down eliminating as many as they can find, but Ralph does not join them. He has lost his heart for it after Bazo is dead.

When Louise and Zouga finally manage to return to King's Lynn, they find it has been ransacked, but nothing irreparable has been done. After lunch, they hear a commotion and find Juba and Tungata in the back trying to catch a chicken. Both are starving and Juba has a message for Cecil from Gandang. He wants to arrange a meeting between them in the Matapos Hills, and insists that he come with no more than three men as escorts and that he be unarmed. Cecil is afraid and doesn't trust Gandang, but Zouga points out that they have little choice. The war has all but bankrupted Cecil at this point and Ralph has had a large hand in that as a result of selling the shares short. They go, and manage to negotiate a peace. It is one of Cecil's last accomplishments. He dies soon after and is given a royal sendoff by both white and native men. The rebuilding process begins. Robyn rebuilds the mission one brick at a time, made from the earth itself, with Juba's help, and renames Tungata Zebiwe, ridding him of the Matabele name that means Seeker After What Has Been Stolen, calling him Gideon Kumalo instead. Ralph and Harry begin to take gold out of Harkness mine. Vicky is expecting and she and Harry are overjoyed. Elizabeth stays with Ralph, true to her word and her declaration of love for him.



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Part Two - 1977: Pages 349 - 382 Summary

Craig Mellow drives Samson Kumalo home to Khami mission after both lost their jobs with the park's board. Before dropping Samson off, they stop at the cemetery, and Craig finds his interest in his own history rekindled. He drops Samson and continues on to King's Lynn to see his grandfather. When he gets there, he is disappointed to find it has changed. Many of the updates have been done to protect against intrusion, but Craig still misses the jacaranda trees planted by Zouga cut down to accommodate the ten foot security fence. When Bawu sees him, he chastises him for losing his job before showing him the newest security updates that include claymores and a new secret weapon he promises to demonstrate the next day. They have a drink together, and Bawu reminds him of his rule not to lend money. Craig knows this, and instead offers Bawu something he can't refuse. Craig has the only three journals missing from the history of journals in Bawu's possession. Craig had come into their possession when Harry Mellow had willed them to him, and now, after years of desiring them, Bawu is offered them. It's a deal he can't and won't resist. The only conditions Craig puts on the sale is that Bawu allow him to read them at his leisure, borrowing them whenever he wanted and that when Bawu dies, he passes them on to Craig in his will - all of them. Bawu quickly agrees and Craig gets them out of the car. He tells Bawu that he is going to apply for a job with the police department, and implores him not to interfere, or 'put in a good word.' Bawu asks to be left alone, and immediately picks up one of the journals, transported back in time.

Craig drives next door to Queen's Lynn, owned by Douglas Ballantyne, and the old house is much as he remembers. It too has been modified, but not so obviously so. There is an outdoor family gathering going on, and his cousin is playing tennis with a woman Craig can hardly keep his eyes off of. It was not a surprise to discover that she is Roland's girlfriend and in his mind, his intended. Craig and Roland play a game of tennis and while cleaning up afterward Roland gets a phone call that takes him to work. He asks Craig to get her home but since it is late they are forced to spend the night at King's Lynn. The next day, Craig gives her a tour of his boat, and they make dinner together before she inadvertently brings up Roland's name and for Craig the mood is ruined. He takes her home and goes back to his boat, immersing himself in Zouga's journals.

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Craig and Samson are best friends. It is an issue that causes them much public grief if it becomes known, so they are forced to confine their familiarity with each other to times when they are alone. Still, when Craig refuses to participate in an elephant cull and loses his job over it, Samson goes with him in a show of solidarity. Craig isn't as responsible or financially set as the rest of the family is, and is looked down on by many of the more upper class of his family. His father Harry Mellow leaves him three journals



when he dies, which are the only possession of any value that Craig considers he owns. When he finds himself out of work yet again, he uses these journals as a bartering chip with his grandfather, selling them to him at a price and with a couple of conditions. One is that Bawu leave them to him in his will along with all of the journals he has from Zouga Ballantyne, and the other is that he allow Craig unrestricted access to them in the mean time. It has come to Craig's attention that he knows very little about his family history, and he has finally come to a point in his life where he wants to know. This makes Bawu happy as none of his other grandchildren (the financially secure Ballantyne branch) are interested in any way in these journals and don't see the value of the information they contain. He is quite pleased that someone actually considers them to be of importance.

Bawu is the bridge between the two families. The Mellow's and the Ballantyne's have been linked for many years and generations, but the Mellow's seem to live in the Ballantyne's shadow. Bawu is an eccentric, and while financially secure and in fact quite wealthy, he is still down to earth and presents himself to be unassuming and unpretentious by comparison to the remainder of the wealthy Ballantyne's who flaunt their wealth and power at every turn. He spends his time ensuring the security of King's Lynn, planting Claymores and devising methods to protect himself from the possible invasion of the ZIPRA. He is somewhat vain about his appearance and demeanor, preferring that outsiders see him as tough and full of grit. He gives to charities of all descriptions, and the only condition he attaches is that no one ever be aware of his generosity.

Craig is a bit unnerved by the wealth and power of the Ballantyne clan, although he still feels as though he is part of the family. He attends a gathering at Queen's Lynn, the home of Douglas Ballantyne, and plays tennis with his cousin Roland, but when he realizes that he is actually beating Roland, he is unable to follow through. He loses his nerve and the match, submitting to the overbearing Ballantyne demeanor of his cousin. When Roland introduces Craig to his girlfriend, and then asks Craig to see her home, Craig is attracted to her, but defeated by the fact that she has been branded as Roland's. This is a cycle that is often repeated in the family dynamics.



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Samson Kumalo goes into the mission house quietly and watches his grandfather Gideon sleeping but he wakes, knowing Samson is there. After tea and conversation, Gideon suggests that Samson pick Constance up from the hospital. He does and they return. Constance makes dinner, but she seems anxious. The reason is clear when Constance opens the door and lets in two men. One searches the house, and the other introduces himself as Comrade Tebe and asks Gideon's name. Though Gideon resists at first, when Tebe mentions the name Tungata Zebwe, and begins to sing about the moles in the earth, tears roll down Gideon's face as he sings along. Tebe tells him that the spirits of his ancestors are calling him. Gideon tells him he is too old and Samson realizes that someone will have to step up, and if he refuses, his grandfather's life would be forfeit.

Just as he gives in, the door opens and the man outside whispers the word 'Kanka' meaning Jackals. They leave after arranging a place and time to meet the following day. Though Samson is angry with Constance at first, his anger dissipates, and he goes to her in the night. They wake to noise and lights, and hear voices instructing them to come out of the house immediately. They dress, and help Gideon to go outside. Roland and his Ballantyne Scouts are everywhere in the darkness, searching for Comrade Tebe and his associates, but they are long gone. A masked informant in the back of one of the trucks identifies Constance as a traitor, and she panics and runs so the soldiers shoot her down. The next day, Samson is ready for his meeting with Tebe.

They ride a bus without acknowledging each other until they reach the Sikumi Forest Reserve. They meet in the General Store who's owner is also with them, and Samson tells Comrade Tebe he is ready to assume his new name: Tungata Zebwe. Tebe shows Samson an assault rifle and explains how to use it and load it. When they leave the store, sixty children are assembled and ready to get on the bus. The teacher has brought them as new recruits. Comrade Tebe tells them that they are going on an exciting adventure, and programming begins immediately. They sing revolutionary songs, and learn responses all the way to the liberated area of Rhodesia. From there, the bus is abandoned, and they continue on foot. They march, eat, sleep and march again. One girl, taken by Tebe on the first night for his own amusement, runs in the night, and Tebe tells Samson that they must find her. When they do, Samson is told to kill her, and given a dull knife with which to accomplish the task. It is another test. By the time they finally reach the minefield, the children are tired and hungry, but are instructed to lay down, cover themselves and remain still until dawn when they can be led through the field safely. They finally reach the ZIPRA recruiting post and spend the night before the children are loaded into cattle trucks for the trip to the training camp two hundred miles north of the Zambezi.



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Samson and his grandfather still stay at Khami mission where hundreds of children benefited from the education provided by Gideon, but grandfather Gideon lives with a secret. His name was changed when he was a child, and he is actually the surviving child of Bazo and Tanaze. Samson's girlfriend Constance is lured into service with the Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA) and disappoints Samson when she reveals this. He has avoided the revolution all of his life to date, and run from any indication of it's presence, but now finds it in his own home. When the ZIPRA Comrade Tebe shows up and asks Gideon to step up to lead his people, Gideon cites his age and failing health as reasons to decline, but Tebe makes it clear that someone must answer the call to service, and looks pointedly at Samson. Tebe already knows who Samson is, and Samson is equally aware that he is not able to decline the invitation to join. If he does, Comrade Tebe will choose to take Gideon, who is actually Tungata Zebiwe by birth whether he is able to go or not. They are ruthless and determined. Seeing no alternative, Samson reluctantly agrees to save his grandfather. Later that evening, the Ballantyne Scouts, led by Roland Ballantyne storm Khami mission, looking for Comrade Tebe and his people. They don't find them, as they are long gone, but they have an informant who from the cover of disguise points out Constance as a revolutionary sympathizer. As they attempt to take her in, she breaks free of them and runs and the penalty for her escape attempt is death.

Watching her die is so traumatic for Samson that it cements his insertion into the revolutionary army. The next day he meets with Comrade Tebe, and presents himself as Tungata Zebiwe. Samson is gone now for good, and Tebe is pleased. He further ensures Samson will not change his mind by testing him in the field. Taking a group of children as recruits, Tebe has Samson not only guard the children, but when one breaks free and runs away in the night, he tasks Samson with her punishment which is death. When Samson puts the young girl to death for her escape attempt, Tebe knows he has a solid convert. Programming is intense and begins immediately with songs and chants that inspire the children and Samson right along with them. Now Tungata, there is no looking back.



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Samson, now Tungata without reservation, spends a month in training under a woman named Wan Lok. It takes little time before he recognizes her abilities and she has his respect and attention. After a month, he is given a place at the front with the section leaders and told he is going in. They lay landmines in the road, and strike the farm houses leaving behind horrors not easily forgotten. They are leaving when Ballantyne's Scouts catch up with them. Tungata recognizes the voice giving instructions as the one who was at Khami mission the night Constance died. His anger clears his head. They fight, losing many men until finally able to make their escape and seven days later Tungata and four men return.

Craig is now the rank of Sergeant Armorer, and goes to see Janine Carpenter. She gives him a tour of her laboratory, and afterward he takes her to lunch and drives with her to the Rhodes Matopos National Park. They see the graves of Cecil Rhodes, the mausoleum, and climb to the grave of Sir Ralph Ballantyne. Craig admits it is the reason for the trip, explaining his interest in the family journals. On the way back he stops at Khami Mission but finds it empty. He is told that Gideon died of a broken heart when someone dear to him was murdered. Stunned, he drives back to his yacht with Janine, and she stays. In the morning, he asks her to make their relationship exclusive, but she puts him off. The next day at lunch, Craig gives her a tour of his operation, and his efforts to trace and identify terrorists. The next night she cancels their plans because Roland is back and Craig goes back to the journals, deciding to do some writing of his own.

Janine and Roland go riding, and he proposes. She accepts and the Scouts throw them an engagement party. He takes her home, stays the night, but tells her that he wants to wed soon, before going into quarantine for a special and secret upcoming mission. He offers her a honeymoon at Victoria Falls, and then tells her to her horror that he wants Craig to be his best man. Janine calls Craig the next day, and meets with him to give him advance notice of Roland's intentions. Craig doesn't understand her decision at first, but she makes it clear that Roland is the 'catch of the day.' Despite how much she like Craig, he had little to offer her by comparison. Roland goes over his plan code named Buffalo with the liaison to combined ops Douglas Hunt - Jeffreys.

Part Two - 1977: Pages 411 - 440 Analysis

Samson loses all sense of himself. His grief is so great after the loss of Constance that he has no trouble converting himself emotionally into Tungata Zebiwé. After a grueling training under the tutelage of Wan Lok, he takes a patrol out and during their raid finds himself in combat with the man who took Constance from him. Despite terrible odds against him and his group of revolutionaries, he manages to evade and escape, doing



anything necessary to do so, including the elimination of his own wounded who are unable to keep up. He has been well trained, and the humanity pushed far from his conscious mind.

Craig has little financially to offer Janine Carpenter, and despite his knowledge that Roland is interested in her, he can't stay away from her. Though only too aware that Roland usually wins any contest between them, he still manages to screw up his courage to go and see her. He takes her out, and they each gain some insight into the work that the other does, and Craig even takes her to Rhodes Matapos National Park on a journey of the history of his ancestors but despite how close they become emotionally, Janine will not allow herself to become exclusive with Craig. To her, the status and financial stability Roland can offer her is more important, and when he returns, she leaves Craig without a glance backward. Roland proposes to her, and she readily accepts, although she is horrified when Roland announces he wants Craig to be his best man. Craig manages to be a gentleman about it, accepting that in any battle with Roland he always loses.

Roland wants to be married before he and his troop go into seclusion pending a special invasion code named Buffalo. They are intent on finding the leading forces of the revolution and he meets with Douglas Hunt - Jeffreys who is the combined operations liaison, unaware that this is the mole in their outfit who is undermining them at every turn.



Part Two - 1977: Pages 440 - 482

Part Two - 1977: Pages 440 - 482 Summary

Douglas Hunt - Jeffreys is the leak the Ballantyne Scouts is trying to plug. After his briefing with Roland, he sleeps with Dr. Leila St. John. She is his recruit, believing she is working for left wing guerrillas. She tells Douglas about the Umlimo and that she is a patient in the hospital, explaining how important she is to the Matabele people. He arranges for her to get a package containing the details of operation Buffalo to Lusaka, warning the terrorists of Ballantyne's intentions. The package includes details of Roland's wedding and honeymoon at Victoria Falls. Tungata mingles with other passengers on a bus and goes to the Khami Mission. Dr. St. John takes him to see the Umlimo, and he tells her that he wants her to be ready to travel the next day. When he gets to her room, she shakes and tells him that he is the son of kings, and that whoever returns the stone falcons will rule the kingdoms. It unnerves him, but he still wants her ready to leave. St. John sneaks him in to the superintendents cottage, and hides him in a secret room in the basement. She feeds him, and tells him the details of operation Buffalo. He tells her that the words of the Umlimo are not to be repeated.

The wedding is a grand affair, and Craig is barely able to restrain himself when the group is asked if anyone objects to the union. The happy couple leaves for Victoria Falls, and Craig is called in for a special assignment - details unknown. The newlyweds enjoy the splendor of Victoria Falls, playing tourists, and lounging by the pool. The time is over much too quickly, and before long, it is time for Janine to head home while Roland goes into quarantine. He takes her to the airport, and watches her plane take off. Then, while checking on the ride he is expecting to take him to quarantine, he hears the pilot of Janine's plane in distress. A surface to air missile fired by Tungata and his men have taken out an engine, and the plane crashes soon after. Roland gets on his helicopter as soon as it arrives and begins searching, but Tungata and his men find the downed plane first. Janine is the only survivor, and Tungata makes sure that when they leave her, she is well used by all of his men, and naked, babbling incoherently under the fuselage. He also makes sure he leaves an obvious trail behind him. When Roland and his scouts find the plane and Janine, he realizes they also raped her, and feels such shame and disgust he is unable to comfort her.

Part Two - 1977: Pages 440 - 482 Analysis

After learning all he can about the upcoming mission code named Buffalo, Douglas Hunt - Jeffreys meets with and sleeps with Dr. Leila St. John. She is a sympathizer for the revolution, and he uses her to get information to their forces that includes the fact that Roland and Janine will be honeymooning at Victoria Falls. It is the gem the revolution is waiting for, as Roland and his Ballantyne scouts are not only good but almost legendary and feared by all who come up against them. To have information that would allow the revolutionary forces to remove this thorn in their side is almost too good



to be true. When Tungata arrives at Khami mission, Leila not only hides him, feeds him, and sleeps with him, but she gives him this information and also tells him that the spiritual leader of the Matabele - the Umlimo - is at her mission hospital. Tungata's intention is to take her back with him, dead or alive.

Roland and Janine are joined in an extravagant affair attended by everyone who is anyone. The opulence is visible everywhere and Craig gets through the event by convincing himself all the way through it that some quirk of fate will step in to stop it in time. When that doesn't happen, he is emotionally devastated. His only sanity is found in the writing he has begun, based on the stories from the journals he avidly reads. The honeymoon is over quickly, and Janine is put on a plane for home while Roland is already preparing himself for operation Buffalo. When Janine's plane is shot down, he is stunned, and as soon as the helicopter arrives that is supposed to be his ride to seclusion comes, he directs it to find the downed plane. It takes some time before they find the wreck, and the revolutionaries find it first. Janine is the only survivor, and Tungata directs his men to have at the spoils of war. He stands a distance away while the rape, sodomize and brutalize her, all the while thinking about how enraged Roland will be. It is all part of the grand trap he has spent much time and energy setting for the Ballantyne scouts and their leader. When Roland finally finds the plane, Tungata and his men are long gone, but their effect is exactly as desired. Roland can hardly even look at Janine, his disgust is so great, and he puts all of his anger and energy into tracking them down instead.



Part Two - 1977: Pages 482 - 526

Part Two - 1977: Pages 482 - 526 Summary

Mad with grief, Roland and his scouts took the spoor and raced after the ZIPRA terrorists. Just before the minefield, Roland finds the remains of Janine's yellow skirt and with renewed fury he almost leaps into the minefield itself, but his second in command tackles him. Roland uses his radio, barely reaching Victoria Falls and requests that Craig Mellow be brought in. Soon after, a plane comes in close and Craig parachutes down. He immediately starts to disarm the claymores and work his way through the minefield, with Roland behind him encouraging all the way. When the progress is slow, he starts to tell Craig the extent of the damage done to Janine. He describes the rape, and the sheer violence of their attack on her, and Craig loses all rationale. He clears the field and is clearing the claymore ring when taking a step hears a familiar click. Almost convinced it is a dud, he steps off, and loses one leg to the explosion and his body is a mass of shrapnel. Roland gives him first aid, tying off his stump and begs him to get them the rest of the way through. Craig crawls on his stomach to finish the job, and when all the scouts are through Roland kisses him gently on the forehead in thanks, leaving him the medical kit with morphine and a hand grenade in case the enemy finds him. Quickly, the scouts leave him there, and follow the spoor all the way across the Zambezi and straight into the trap built by Tungata. They are all caught in the open, and despite heroic efforts, all are killed.

Craig survives, and is patched up, but shell shock affects his mind leaving him unable to walk. He rebuilds his vehicle and modifies it and the yacht for his damaged body. When they tell him he is physically healed, he checks himself out before the psychiatrist can work on him, convinced they are wrong and he is not in need of his help. He throws himself into adapting his yacht and writing his manuscript. Bawu visits regularly, as he did in the hospital, and they ignore the present, speaking only of the past and history of relatives, drinking gin and enjoying each others company. When Bawu tells him one day that they have lost the war, he cries, and Craig sees the weight of the years on him for the first time. The next week, Bawu comes with his inheritance, and help to load the manuscripts onto the yacht. He looks beaten. The next week, Craig waits for him, but in his place Janine shows up. She has put on weight, and looks unsure of herself, and it takes work to convince her to even come on board. Finally, she tells him that Bawu is dead.

They spend time together, each slowly healing inside with the help of each others company, and Craig even allows her to read his manuscript which she loves and convinces him to send to a publisher. Craig has been denied his application to launch his yacht without providing a surety of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars by the new government, led by Comrade Minister Tungata. Finally, the stone falcons are returned to the museum and put on display in the same room as Janine's collection is. She is still plagued by nightmares, as is Craig, but they live together on the yacht, and each feels safer for it. Janine asks for an audience with the minister, and when she and Craig



arrive, he is stunned to find himself face to face with his old friend Samson. He appeals to him for the right to take his yacht on the ocean, and is denied until Janine speaks up, finally reminding Tungata of where he knows her from. She asks if he has lost all of his humanity in the journey, and after admitting that war makes monsters of all, he signs the agreement to allow the 'Bawu' to sail.

They leave together as soon as it can be arranged - sober and excited, and leaving land behind they get an incoming message that Craig's manuscript has been accepted for publishing. Too overwhelmed for words, they head out and after surviving their first real storm, become seasoned sailors. Shortly afterward, Craig wakes to find Janine in his arms and feeling of exquisite pain below his waist. Somehow, they both know that they will be fine in time.

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Grief overwhelms reason and Roland plunges wildly ahead in the bush, barely taking any concern other than the capture of those responsible. He almost plunges headlong through the minefield but for being tackled by his second in command and held down until reason returned. Then Roland remembers that Craig is at Victoria Falls and has him flown to him and dropped by parachute. When he arrives, Roland instructs him to find his way through the minefield, and when his progress is too slow, he urges him on by telling him about the layers of depravity that these revolutionaries stooped to with Janine. He is amazed to discover by Craig's reaction that he is in love with her as well, and uses this knowledge to spur him on quicker still until finally, near the end of the field, he makes a critical mistake, and hears that fateful click under his foot. Believing it might be a dud, as it hasn't yet exploded, he steps off, and the explosion separates one leg from his body, peppering him with shrapnel. Using a field first aid kit, Roland creates a tourniquet to stop the bleeding, and while Craig is still in shock and immune from most of the pain, he begs him to finish opening the field for them. Craig manages to do so, crawling forward on his belly and dragging his ruined body behind him. The scouts get through, and leave him there with a medical kit containing morphine for pain, and a grenade in case the terrorists find him before help can. They continue to follow the almost too obvious trail left behind by the revolutionaries, and even cross the Zambezi river in almost darkness spurred on by what appears to be a harmless campfire on the other side. They race right into the trap Tungata set, and he and his men open fire, catching the scouts in the open and undefended. They are all killed.

Craig is rescued and after months in the hospital where he modifies his jeep to accommodate his handicap, he checks himself out and goes back to his yacht. From there, he makes the modifications he needs to get around, and looks forward to his weekly visits from Bawu where they only discuss the journals and history. Current events do not interest Craig. When Bawu shows up one day looking every bit of his age, Craig knows something awful has happened. Bawu tells him they have lost the war, and the thought of it has taken the life from him. On his next visit, he brings Craig his inheritance. All of the journals are carefully loaded onto the yacht. Craig continues to write, and makes the decision to allow Bawu to be the first to read it. He nervously looks



forward to the next visit, but Bawu doesn't come. Instead, to Craig's surprise, Janine shows up to tell him that Bawu is dead. Grieving, they both attend the funeral together, and Craig convinces Janine to come back to the yacht afterward. She sees his manuscript and he reluctantly allows her to begin reading it. Hooked, she comes back again, unable to stop thinking about it. It is the beginning of a new friendship for them.

She spends nearly every day at the yacht, and finally moves in, but not before making it clear that she is damaged goods and will never be a proper woman for a man. Craig doesn't care. He still has not regained lower body feeling, and together they slowly help each other heal emotionally. Janine finds the courage to face the new minister, Tungata, responsible for her rape, and ask his permission to launch Craig's yacht, and Craig is stunned to find himself face to face with his old friend Samson. It is a reminder to Tungata of who he used to be, and he relents, allowing them the permission they need to sail. Their new found freedom convinces them to quit drinking and work on getting healthy before they leave. When they finally sail away from shore, a radio transmission comes in for Craig. His book has been accepted for publication, thanks to Janine and her insistence that he submit it. They happily sail off, weathering their first real storm of the ocean, and afterward, with new confidence, they find each other again, this time allowing their love for each other to heal all wounds.



Characters

Ralph Ballantyne

Oldest son of Zouga Ballantyne, Ralph takes after his father both in courage and stamina. He is also full of adventure as he follows in his father's footsteps, having heard the stories of courage and daring all of his life. He begins with a single wagon and builds a transport company that rapidly becomes the largest and most efficient in Africa and from there develops land holdings, cattle, and mining interests in both coal and gold. When rinderpest strikes African wildlife and cattle alike, he quickly sees he will lose everything and in a daring move he cuts the telegraph lines in four places to buy enough time to sell all of his cattle to an eager competitor before the extent of the devastation is known. He tells only his father Zouga who also manages to sell his many cattle just in time to avoid financial devastation. This action and the timing of it is reported to Cecil Rhodes by his own brother Jordan, and as a result he is forced out of his coal mining interests. The only caveat is that in return for surrendering his coal interests is that he gains unfettered control over the Harkness mines in return.

Ralph is married to Cathy Codrington, and they live in a traveling encampment almost more luxurious than most available hotel rooms. A bevy of servants travel with them to set up and take down camp at their every whim, assuring them not only the most comfortable sleeping arrangements, but hot water in a private bath house at their constant disposal, and a full kitchen. They want for little, but Ralph is not able to spend as much time there as Cathy would like.

Craig Mellow

At twenty nine years of age, Craig is half Ballantyne and half Mellow. He has dark hair, and hazel eyes that give him the appearance of innocence. His mouth is wide and gentle looking adding to his overall image of a vulnerable young boy. He has long legs that are strong and lean. He is the great, great grandson to Robyn St. John (nee Ballantyne), great grandson to Victoria and Harry Mellow and a third generation Rhodesian. Described as a hippy by some of his family, he has had several jobs, and lost them all for a variety of reasons. Often seen as the 'poor relation' in the family, Craig is unsure of himself around the more wealthy relatives and family gatherings. Craig's grandfather, Jonathan Ballantyne and son of Ralph and Cathy Ballantyne, still lives at King's Lynn and welcomes visits from Craig. Craig speaks Sindebele as well as fluently as he speaks English, and his best friend is Samson Kumalo - the Matabele descendant of Tungata Zebiwe, son of Bazo and Tanase. The families of the Ballantynes, Mellows and Kumalos have been linked for many generations.

Craig joins the police force after refusing to participate in an elephant cull in his capacity as park ranger and losing his job as a result. He is unable to kill the animals he has come to think of as friends. His friend Samson quits as well in support of Craig, and



Craig takes him home to Khami Mission where his grandfather, Gideon Kumalo lives. On the way, he stops at the mission cemetery and rediscovers an interest in his family history. The names are vaguely familiar to him, and his curiosity is piqued just enough that he decides to explore his roots a little further. He finds employment with the police department and rises quickly in the ranks, his main objective being to find and eliminate the Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA). He also finds himself falling in love with his cousin Roland's girlfriend Janine (Bugsy) Carpenter.

Roland Ballantyne

A Colonel in the Ballantyne Scouts which he resurrected three years previously, Roland is good looking, charming and heir to twenty two million. He is every girls' dream with straight white teeth set against a deep, dark tan and has the Ballantyne eyes - a color of green described as 'Crème de Menthe in a crystal glass.' He has short wavy hair that has been bleached by the sun to the color of honey gold, and he moves with the lithe and grace of a large wildcat on the prowl. He is in superb physical condition, with long muscled legs and forearms, and radiates confidence. Roland grew up with a silver spoon in his mouth, was the head boy at Michaelhouse, and earned a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford (which is the scholarship set up by Cecil Rhodes for gifted and promising students to ensure his legacy). He won the silver cross for valor, and his bravery borders on foolhardy.

Seventy years after the original Ballantyne scouts disbanded, Roland brings them back to life to deal with the ongoing terrorism caused by ZIPRA. A true descendant of Ralph Ballantyne, he shares many of the characteristics of his ancestor. He is chauvinistic, and self involved, and his attitude towards women falls dangerously close to abusive. He enjoys being in control, and is quick to temper when things don't go his way. His position in life and society is largely a result of family wealth and the doors it opens for him.

Jonathan Ballantyne (Bawu - Gadfly)

Zouga's grandson and Ralph's son, Bawu grows up at King's Lynn, and becomes heir to a fortune. He lives long enough that most people guess his age to be close to a hundred or more. Craig believes he is closer to eighty. He is sun dried to the color of dark venison and his eyes are still the twinkling Ballantyne green of his youth. His dense hair is a shock of white that falls to his collar and he brushes daily till it shines and matches his silver mustache. He gnarled fingers lead to bony hands that still maintain the strong grip of youth. He has artificial teeth that fit neatly in his mouth, gleaming and is vainly attached to them. His skin is cool and dry and cheeks wizened with age, and he wears wire rimmed glasses. Still, he is aware and very defensive of his home and property. He is a chronic insomniac, and spends his spare time creating defense systems that would rival if not exceed the defenses of most army bases.



He likes to maintain a tough and no nonsense attitude, but inside he is much softer. He might tell Craig that the financial well is dry and there will be no more loans, but if Craig were truly in trouble, Bawu would be first in line to help. He is a cunning man, and donates to most every charity - his only condition being that no one find out. He owns King's Lynn as well as four other ranches, and the Harkness mine which is still producing.

Samson Kumalo

Samson is a direct descendant of the man now known as Gideon Kumalo but who was born with the name Tungata Zebuwe. He is Matabele, and proud of it. He has a deep, intelligent forehead, a hard set jaw and is smooth and clean shaven. He loves his grandfather, and is loyal to her friends and family. Samson's ties to his family are so strong that when the ZIPRA Commander Comrade Tebe shows up, he steps up to save his grandfather, and steps up as Tungata Zebuwe. Told that the spirits of his ancestors call him, Samson complies and finds himself thrown into a world he has avoided his whole life.

Bazo (The Axe)

Son of Gandang and Juba and nephew to Lobengula, Baso is the grandson of the great Mzilikazi. His Matabele name means the Axe but these days he is more often known as the Wanderer. He has broad shoulders, and the speed of a leopard. His torso bears the scars of machine gun wounds from a battle with the white men that occurred on the banks of the Shangani River, and one arm is deformed and permanently shortened as a result as well. None of this has dampened his determination or drive to rise above the current domination by the white men. Though he wears a simple kilt and cloak of tanned leather, he also has the headring of the Induna, woven directly into his hair out of gum and clay, and commanding respect wherever he goes.

His wife Tanase is the love of his life, and he treats her with a respect and equality that is unlike any of the other Matabele. She gives him a son named Tungata. Bazo was first sent by Gandang to work the diamond mines at Kimberley to earn money for rifles to fight the white men with. He meets Zouga Ballantyne on the way, and becomes his employee, working side by side with son Ralph for the next several years. They form a bond that is deeper than friendship, bordering on brotherhood, and Bazo gives Ralph the Matabele name Henshaw - the Hawk. Bazo's hatred for the white men stems from several instances of betrayal, and he is so determined in his quest to return the Matabele nation to their former strength and glory that he becomes their defacto king. He leads them into battle, encouraging them, and arming them, giving them back their dignity. Unfortunately, he takes things to far. His indiscriminate slaughter of men, women and children extends to include Ralph's wife Cathy and their unborn daughter, and when Ralph realizes he is the one responsible, he vows to avenge them. He does so in a raid of his own, stringing both Bazo and his wife Tanase up in the trees. Bazo had been told



by Tanase many times that he would die at Ralph's hand, and that Ralph would be happy about it, but Bazo didn't believe the prophesy from his wife.

Cecil Rhodes

Cecil is barely forty years of age, but does not wear it well. His hair has gone from blonde to silver and his skin sags with an unhealthy pallor. Still, his voice is high and clear, and his pale, blue eyes maintain their hypnotic hold. He has a strong mind, a large body and though by appearances he is untidy in dress, he owns or controls nearly all of the world's diamonds. He owns every claim in Kimberley, which was formerly known as Colesberg Kopje, and his main residence is a mansion he calls Groote Schuur in the Cape of Good Hope.

Despite his wealth and obvious power over people, Cecil is very uncomfortable around women. He allows no women in his employ, and if an employee of his should marry, he would forfeit his employment with Cecil. His discomfort where the opposite sex is concerned even transfers to his preferences in art. No sculptures, pictures or paintings of women can be found in his mansion either. He has great respect and trust for few men. His right hand man, Dr. Leander Starr Jameson and Zouga's youngest son, Jordan are his constant companions. Other than that, he explicitly trusts Zouga and relies on him heavily.

Rhodes is middle aged, but his health is failing fast. His complexion is often ruddy and pale, and points to the weakness and ill health that he is only too aware of. He spends his days dictating ideas and executing business moves that continually add to his already uncountable wealth, but no amount of money will give him what he desires most which is more time.

In an effort to ensure his continued legacy, he endeavors to control as much of the wealth of Africa as is possible, and by any means necessary. Despite his failing health, his mind is clear and his blue eyes are sharp and piercing as he personally takes on any and all adversaries, always coming out on top.

Zouga Ballantyne

Zouga is a fearless and experienced man who has seen the wilds of Africa from many perspectives. Beginning as a young man, he explores the ancient city of Zimbabwe with Jan Cheroot, writing a novel titled A Hunter's Odyssey that chronicles their adventures. Side by side with Hottentot, Jan Cheroot, Zouga fights lions and hunts wild men and elephants alike. Later, he gives his diary to his son, Ralph, who follows in his father's footsteps. Zouga is proud and a little envious of his son Ralph, and his ability to turn opportunity into wealth.

Named Bakela or the fist by the Matabele, he is still fast and lean. His skin is still clear and his face is unlined with age. His eyes are still quick and though his beard shows the beginnings of silvering, the coloring could also be attributed to the African sun.



Zouga's good fortune includes the discovery of the Ballantyne diamond. He acted as Cecil Rhodes's personal agent at the kraal of King Lobengula because of his language skills, and rode with Dr. Jameson as a field officer against King Lobengula afterward. His bravery and trustworthiness earned him an appointment to custodian of enemy property after King Lobengula's death. Afterward, he refuses a further request to act as chief native commissioner in favor of retirement to his estate at King's Lynn with his new bride Louise. Despite retirement, he still holds a seat on the board of the British South African Company, and Cecil's trust.

Zouga has two sons. Ralph Ballantyne is much like his father, and recognizes opportunity when he sees it. He makes his first fortune beginning with one wagon full of goods that he borrows money to purchase. He turns this into the largest and most lucrative transport company in the area. Jordan Ballantyne becomes the personal secretary of Cecil Rhodes and remains with him for most of the rest of his life.

Gideon Kumalo (Tungata Zebiwe)

Gideon has white and fluffy hair that is white as cotton wool, and a little goatee beard on the tip of his chin. His skin is so old that it almost resembles parchment, thin and delicate, dark amber with wrinkles that cover his face from exposure to the sun. He has trouble keeping warm, often sleeping sitting up in a chair in the sun. His eyes are blue and milky with blindness, but his hearing and perception is incredible. He has a sweet tooth, and enjoys tea made by Samson, claiming he is the only one who can make it right. He has taught many generations of children over the years at the Khami mission, in his capacity as assistant headmaster, and his guidance is felt by none as strongly as by his own grandson, Samson.

Mungo St. John

Known as a man of vision by some, and the spawn of the devil by others, Mungo St. John is the current husband to Robyn Codrington. Robyn marries him after he arrives at the mission to personally inform her of her husband's death, and in the process takes advantage of her grief and impregnates her. Their son Robert is the primary reason for the union that Robyn most often loathes. He has only one eye, covering the other with a patch, but still has a handsome allure that Robyn is unable to resist. Strong and confident, Mungo lives his life taking advantage of others. He made his first fortune running slaves until Robyn turned him in to the authorities, and afterward aligned himself with anyone who had money that could be parted from it. His traveling companion Louise becomes Zouga's wife.

Harry Mellow

Harry is a handsome man whose strong face and even white teeth are attractive to most women. He has a Kentucky accent, and a firm, dry handshake. His straight back and broad shoulders convey his self confidence and with good reason. Harry is the best



mining engineer in Africa, and he is Ralph's choice to develop and operate the newly discovered Harkness Mine.

Jordan Ballantyne

Jordan is a fair haired young man with a handsome and gentle nature that inspires him to be well loved by all who meet him. He is warm and outgoing, and boasts many talents. He began employment with Cecil as his personal secretary at the age of nineteen, and as such his obedience and deference to the man is now second nature.

Tanase

Tanase is young, with a straight and hard body and breasts that are perfectly symmetrical. Despite having given birth to a son of Bazo, she still has a concave belly, smooth and drum tight, and her eyes are slanted over cheekbones that are arched not unlike a statue that could have been found in the tomb of a long dead pharaoh. Her neck is long and graceful, and she wears a leather skirt, decorated with the beads of a wedded woman.

She was once chosen as the apprentice to the mad sorcerer, Pemba, but lost her powers when white men raped her in an effort to take some of the superstitious power from the Matabele when Lobengula was overthrown.

Robyn St John (nee Ballantyne)

With hair the same mahogany color as Elizabeth's, Robyn has only a fine mist of silver belying her age. Her skin is almost as unlined as her daughter's. Having caused a scandal by impersonating a man in order to attend medical school, she continues to give the British Medical Association much to discuss. She is strong and stubborn, quick to defend her girls and her son Robert. Her Matabele given name is Nomusa meaning child of mercy as a result of her routine treatment of Matabele tribe members. Her life at Khami Mission was established with her husband who ran the religious services before his death. Afterward, Robyn took over these duties as well.

She has a quick mind, and relentlessly pursues the course that would be best for Africa and its native people. She resents men such as Mungo St. John who arrive with an eye to take over and make the most of any and all resources the country has to offer with little concern for the welfare of those who lived in harmony before their arrival. Her advice to King Lobengula originally to accept St. John's request for mineral rights led to the bloody battle that eventually led to the king's death along with many of his warriors.



Victoria Codrington

One half of the Codrington twins, Victoria is striking, tall, with green eyes that are wide spaced, and a mouth that is just slightly too large. Her laughter is loud and unrestrained, her lips like velvet and her teeth are large, white and square. She has copper blonde tresses that tumble about her face and shoulders and she is just beginning to understand the effect she has over men.

Elizabeth Codrington

The other half of the Codrington twins, Elizabeth is darker than her sister and just as tall. Her hair is reminiscent of polished mahogany and her skin is well loved by the sun. As slim as a dancer, she has a narrow waist, long neck and eyes the color of a tiger's. Though her breasts are smaller than her sisters', her voice is equally soft, and together the girls are full of mischief. Beautiful and confident, she remains single as she only has eyes for one man and he is married. She is in love with Ralph, and has loved him since the first time he rode into Khami mission and introduced himself. Her patience is rewarded when Cathy is tragically killed in the Matabele uprising. Ralph is free and she finally tells him that she has always loved him.

Louise Ballantyne

Louise is beautiful and has been since Ralph first laid eyes on her in Kimberley when he was just a boy. She has an elegance that seems to come naturally, and Zouga is always amazed by her large slanted eyes and how they change colors with her moods. When she is happy, they are a light and soft blue. She wears her hair in a long braid that falls to her waist and accentuates her broad forehead. Her cheekbones are arched and her cheeks are dotted with fine freckles. Louise is a tremendous horse woman, one of the few who still rides astride with as much grace and fluidity as most who ride straddled in the seat. Quick witted, and with a good sense of humor, Louise loves her husband, and has since the first time she met him in Kimberley.

Dr. Leander Starr Jameson

Dr. Jameson is Cecil Rhodes's shadow and right hand man. He is small and narrow in the shoulders and his neat and tidy attire is always in sharp contrast to the sloppy attire of Cecil Rhodes.

Umlimo

Name given to the chosen ones who are able to see the future and predict it, giving signs to the Matabele, the Umlimo are women especially chosen before they have had intercourse, and lose their powers when that occurs. Tanase, Bazo's wife, is an Umlimo



until she is raped by white men who seek to undermine the strength of the Matabele when war was waged against Lobengula.

Jan Cheroot

Jan Cheroot is a Hottentot who has been the loyal servant and companion to Zouga Ballantyne for so many years that a close friendship and trust has developed. He has pure white peppercorns of hair that cover his head, and wears a battered regimental cap. He is quick to smile and full of stories of bravery and adventure.

Dr. Leila St. John

The superintendent of the Khami Mission Hospital, she is the daughter of Robert St. John and granddaughter of Robyn Ballantyne. She is strong of character, cares little for making a feminine impression and has skin that seems unnaturally pale. She has dark hair that she wears tied back with leather thongs into pony tails that make her prominent ears even more obvious. She wears horn rimmed spectacles and has intense green eyes and a direct and forthright manner. She is a sympathizer to the ZIPRA and opens her home to hide them on more than one occasion.



Objects/Places

Zimbabwe

This ancient city of the dead was forbidden to trespass by the Matabele King, Lobengula. His taboo on this city is violated both by Zouga, and by his son Ralph, both taking the stone falcons from the city before Lobengula's death. The origins of the city are still speculated on, some believing it may have been the city of Ophir referred to by the Bible. What is certain is that the former inhabitants valued gold as much as those who now seek to mine it again.

Harkness Mine

Named after Tom Harkness who originally shared his discovery of the area with Zouga, Harkness Mine is located nine days walk from the ancient city's ruins. Harkness Mine is rediscovered, claimed and named by Zouga Ballantyne, his son Ralph and his constant companion, Hottentot Jan Cheroot.

Assegais

A stabbing spear with a shaft made of polished heartwood from the blood wood tree, the assegais are hand forged, wide as a palm and as long as a forearm. The edge is honed and sharp enough to shave with and the shaft is bound with copper wire.

M'fecane

The name given to the destruction of a million souls when Mzilikazi laid waste to the land between the Orange and Limpopo rivers.

King's Lynn

Name given by Zouga Ballantyne to the property he owns with his wife Louise. The land is so vast that it would take a good rider three days to ride around the boundary. Zouga built his home on one of the distant hills for his wife, and she is certain that many generations of their family will live there for many years.

Khami Mission

Bordering on the land owned by Zouga, the Khami Mission property is actually owned by Mungo St. John, but run by Robyn Codrington since her husband's death.



Kanka

A derogatory name used by the Matabele for the Company natives hired as policemen similar to the scavenger that follows the lion for scraps. Expresses the Matabele's great hatred felt for these traitors.

Bulawayo

Town where those who survive the Matabele attack gather and regroup.

ZIPRA

Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army.

Queen's Lynn

Property belonging to Douglas Ballantyne (the only surviving son of Jonathan Ballantyne) that borders King's Lynn and shares a seven mile boundary on one side. It is the eastern section of the Rholands Ranching Company. On it is raised the prime marbled beef of Kobe.

Sindebele

Language spoken by Afrikaaners and considered to be the main language of the people in this region.

Claymores

Made by Jonathan Ballantyne to protect his property, they are ten kilos of plastic explosives packed into a drum and suspended on a tripod with connections that make it possible to fire them remotely.

Biltong

Dark strips of venison that are dried and considered a Rhodesian delicacy.

Cheetah

Call sign of the Ballantyne Scout base.



Victoria Falls

Known locally as the Smoke that Thunders, Victoria Falls is the place where the entire Zambezi river plunges over a ledge and into a narrow gorge.

Matabele

Name of the largest and only prevalent tribe in Africa. White men who first raped the area of resources later drive the Matabele people along with their king into the hills where many starved to death. The warriors of this tribe were hunted down in an attempt to extinguish them completely.

Spoor

Trail left behind when something or someone leaves an area. When an animal or man is being hunted, the hunters 'take the spoor.'



Themes

White men vs Matabele

The struggle for domination is not new. It happens throughout history again and again. This is as evident in Africa as it was in North America when the natives were over run by white men. The Matabele nation lived an uncomplicated life raising cattle and living in harmony with the land. They were fiercely proud, and lived by strict codes of behavior amongst their tribe. Their sons learned early in life to be responsible for the cattle, and to honor their families and their king. Daughters were taught the value of becoming a wife, and a mother, and to honor their husbands. They judged their wealth by the health and number of the cattle they owned, grew vegetables and hunted the land for survival, and would likely have continued to do so for generations if left alone. They are a spiritual tribe, believing in the prophesies of the Umlimo, and living by a code that included the spirit world. Men were taught that it was an honor to do the king's bidding, and to fight for him, and did so without reservation. Even when the white men first arrived, the Matabele attempted to deal with them fairly. They allowed Robyn and Clinton Codrington to open and run the Khami mission, and enjoyed a relationship of mutual respect and trust. This trust was put to the test when Robyn Codrington assures King Lobengula that Cecil Rhodes was an honorable man that wouldn't take advantage of them.

The white men who first arrived in Africa, saw it as something to conquer. First it was ivory from the elephants tusks, then diamonds that they mined from the ground, then gold, and then coal. After that, it was the land. One by one, the resources were raped to extinction. The elephants were hunted until there were no more, the diamonds were mined until the land was raped. Gold and coal were taken with the same enthusiasm, and when the areas the white men were in were stripped clear, they moved inland and noticed the land the Matabele occupied. They discovered resources there as well, and the invasion began. It started simply enough. The white man only wanted to purchase the rights to the resources under the soil. The Matabele didn't fully understand what that entailed, and had no idea that this would be the beginning of the end. The white men moved in, and brought cattle, but soon realized that the land the Matabele grazed their cattle on was better. They concluded that they should have that land also. They drove King Lobengula out of his kraal, and continued to pursue him until his death. The white men invaded the home of the Matabele's spiritual leader, the Umlimo, and took her power from her by raping her.

Ballantyne Scouts vs ZIPRA

The Ballantyne Scouts are fighting to ensure the peace and liberty of the people of Africa. They believe in what they do, and are fearless as they hunt the ZIPRA revolutionists. Though they are met with fierce opposition, and the casualties are often high, Ballantyne's Scouts are highly trained and will go anywhere they are told this



enemy exists. They are very visible, and make no secret of their appearance, often frightening those caught in the middle. When they receive word that a member of the revolutionary group is at work, they immediately fly into action, making a spectacle of their arrival. They are unrelenting in their pursuit, telling citizens by bullhorn that if they are not involved they need have no fear. Should a citizen not present himself or herself immediately, they are presumed to be insurgents, and treated with the same force as if they were sympathizers. Their efforts are highly publicized and their losses publicly mourned. They have complete autonomy, able to enter and restrain anyone they believe to be involved, with little more than suspicions or tips from those previously caught and interrogated. They have a difficult time despite their many resources in tracking those involved in the revolution as there are many who will publicly denounce them but privately support them, giving them shelter, and helping them to attain and transport weapons as well as provide meeting places and further their efforts at recruitment.

The members of the Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army also believe they are in the right. They come from a long line of native Africans who can trace their history back to legendary greats like Kings Lobengula and Mzilikazi. They fight for the same freedoms as did Bazo the Axe and Tanase the witch, and hold these Matabele in highest regard. They are a tough and unyielding army that makes use of even children to fight the war for freedom. The revolutionary army uses tactics that often impact on the common people and as a result their cause is lost in the casualties. They are trained to be relentless and fearless, and the children they employ are brainwashed and expendable. It is a combination that makes them difficult to control. Still, like the Ballantyne Scouts, they feel they are on the side of righteousness, and believe that in order to succeed and attain freedom they must be willing to put everything on the line - and they do. Publicly, they have a bad reputation although there are many who will help them in secret. When they suffer losses, it is in silence as the media ignores these sacrifices for their country.

Love vs Money

As is so often the case in reality, loyalties can be lost between the acquisition of money, and the desire for love. In this novel, Wilbur Smith reminds of us that when he introduces the interactions between Craig Mellow, Roland Ballantyne and Janine Carpenter. Craig Mellow is portrayed as the poor relation in the Ballantyne family tree. Like his father, he manages to spend his money in a manner that the remainder of the family would call squandering. Harry Mellow manages to lose most of his financial interest in the Harkness mine before he dies, leaving only one item that is considered to be of any value to Craig. This inheritance consists of three leather bound, hand written diaries or journals that go back in time and chronicle the events and lives of Zouga Ballantyne and Harry Mellow. They are the only three missing in a number of volumes written by Zouga Ballantyne and later owned by Jonathan Ballantyne, and he covets them unashamedly, despite his personal wealth. Craig recognizes the true value of these journals, and when he finally allows Jonathan to have them, it is not without a price. Craig's conditions include that he be allowed unrestricted access to them, and that when Jonathan dies, he will them all to Craig. It is a deal easily done by Jonathan.



Roland is more in line with the traditional Ballantyne family. He reeks of wealth and stature, and uses his position to gain the standing that he wants and to ensure the lifestyle he desires. His inheritance is considerable, and while he is also very nice to look at from a purely physical standpoint, and considered to be a catch because of his wealth and looks, Roland is also shallow and self involved. He introduces Janine (whom he refers to as Bugsy as reference to her work as an entomologist) to Craig who instantly falls in love with her. After a short time, she finds herself deeply attracted to both men, but loving Craig. Despite her deep feelings for Craig, she accepts Roland's proposal for marriage. When Craig questions her, she asks him point blank what he would have done in her shoes. After all, Roland has so much more to offer her, she thinks.

Despite her belief that Roland is the answer to some grand and exotic future, when the revolutionary forces shoot down the plane she is on, and then take turns raping and sodomizing her and leave her for Roland to find, he is unable to bring himself to even comfort her. All he can think about when he sees her ravaged body is how many of 'them' might have used her and the thought so revolts him that he can't bring himself to go with her to the hospital. Instead, he places all of his anger and resources into tracking the revolutionary force with the intent of making them pay for 'ruining' his wife. His narrow minded, and selfishly driven rage drive him straight into a trap that costs Craig his leg as the result of a claymore and costs him and the rest of his team their lives. Much later, when Craig and Janine have physically healed, they find each other once again, and the love they have for each other is the catalyst that allows the emotional healing necessary to occur for them both.



Style

Point of View

While the author, Wilbur Smith of *The Angels Weep* uses a first person narrative consistently, it varies from one character to another with the importance of the time line and the family involved. The story follows several families, and their involvement in the development of Africa and her government. Beginning in the mid to late eighteen hundreds, when Africa is still largely untouched by white men, the author draws in each family usually using the patriarch or matriarch as the character from whom the point of view is taken. The Matabele tribe is shown from the point of view of both Gandang, the brother of King Lobengula, one of his sons Bazo the Axe, and even on occasion from Bazo's chosen wife and former Umlimo Tanase the witch, giving the reader a broad view of customs and hierarchy of the tribe.

The white man is represented by the most ambitious of those to first arrive, and those who have gained the most and those who have stood to lose the most by their presence. From the Missionaries who have lived at the Khami mission in harmony with the Matabele for many years to Cecil Rhodes, the man who almost single handed takes over the country. Having been wildly successful in the diamond mines at Kimberley, Cecil uses his wealth to accumulate land, coal mines and gold mines while he allows others to fight the Matabele for his intrusion into their land. Both sides are well presented, and the reader can easily see both points of view as Wilbur Smith weaves his tale of the struggle to rule the wilds of Africa.

Setting

Set entirely in Africa, this third book of the trilogy is steeped in history. Wilbur Smith weaves a tale that sweeps the reader up in the revolution of the country and its efforts to keep the immigrating white man from completely erasing all signs of the African's lifestyle and tradition. This novel centers largely around the town of Bulawayo, and the surrounding area, although part two delves into the revolutionary stronghold of Zambezi. Both first and second parts center around the property holdings of the Ballantyne family including King's Lynn, and in part two the addition of Queen's Lynn, the Rholand's Ranching Company, the Harkness Mine as well as the ties to the Khami mission.

From an African/native standpoint, this novel also traces the history of the land belonging to the Matabele tribe, the war that took it from them and the efforts of some men to make all of this land part of the Queen's holdings. One man, Cecil Rhodes, devotes his life to this end, and lives to create a state capital on the land once owned by Matabele, but in the end, Rhodes is buried in the Matapos Hills and after many bloody encounters, the Matabele are once again in control of the land owned by the kings of days gone by. A master story teller, Smith has your attention from beginning to end.



Language and Meaning

When *Angels Weep* is written in conversation English for the most part, but Wilbur Smith does a wonderful job of weaving in the names and places associated with Africa before white men arrived. Words like assegai (a stabbing weapon of the Matabele tribe) and kraal (the word given to represent the land owned by the king of the Matabele and later his descendents) lend to the authenticity of the story. At the same time, Smith manages to portray the lifestyle of the white men using words like laager (referring to the circle a group of wagons would be pulled into for defensive purposes) and mijn heer (the formal address of the Dutch who controlled the southern tip of Africa) to give the reader a grasp of the vast differences between the two sides and their cultures. By using the same style to create the levels of rank on all sides, Smith jumps easily back and forth between the Dutch who use 'field cornet' to describe an elected office somewhere between a sheriff and a magistrate, to 'induna' in Matabele which represents their version of a field commander or troop leader, to the 'comrade' of the revolutionary forces referring to their commanders. Despite the mingling of so many cultures and styles, Wilbur Smith never loses the reader by injecting either too much 'realism' or too little losing the story in the process.

Structure

When *Angels Weep* by Wilbur Smith is The third book of a trilogy chronicling the life of the Ballantyne family. It is written in two parts. The first section, part one, takes place from 1877 forward, and introduces three main families and their involvements with each other and Africa. The Ballantyne's patriarch, Zouga Ballantyne comes to Africa long before it is sullied by the greed of white men. He makes his way through the wilderness, making friends with Matabele natives, and finding riches beyond description. His sons grow up in Africa, working in diamond mines, and hearing his stories of adventures including elephant hunting, Matabele warriors, and gold and diamond mines. One son becomes the secretary to Cecil Rhodes who declares himself king of all he sees, and together with Zouga strips the land of its resources.

Making a fortune in diamonds enables Cecil to control much of what is later mined including gold and coal. He uses Zouga and his sons to further his ambitions to rule, naming a large area Rhodesia after himself. His goal is to be immortal, and to that end he manipulates and buys his way into every corner of the country. His ambition knows no boundaries, and when he realizes that the Matabele tribe occupy a territory that is rich in grazing land and water, Cecil has to have that land as well. He manufactures a threat against the permanent residents of the Khami mission and begins the war that drives the Matabele further into the Matapos Hills, killing their king and in the process ensuring retribution from the warriors who remain. The war rages on, and it is almost a year before Zouga is able to bring Louise home to King's Lynn. They are only there a short time when Juba, now hungry and malnourished, arrives with an invitation for peace. One of Cecil's final acts before his death is to personally negotiate this peace.



For years, the peace holds. Part two continues in the year 1977 The white man is firmly entrenched in Africa and the Ballantyne generation has changed. Those from one hundred years before are gone, and the next generation now roams the country. The Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Party is as determined to remove the white man's rule as the white man is to exterminate them once and for all. The battle now rages underground. Ballantyne's Scouts come back to life after a seventy year hiatus and work to flush out the ZIPRA wherever they settle, but Zambia is a safe haven for the revolutionaries who are far from giving in. They recruit children to fight and die for them, they seek out living relatives of Matabele warriors like Bazo the Axe and the Umlimo and use their strength to further their resistance. Those who have found friendship through the decades and bridged the gap of racial prejudice are once again on opposite sides of a war that seems to have no end. Finally, the ZIPRA prevail, and Samson Kumalo, now known as Tungata Zebwe, finds himself a leader in a government that was long ago part of a prophesy by the Umlimo.



Quotes

"Without a good woman, there is no today, and without a good son there is no tomorrow." Part One: Pg 36
Ralph Ballantyne to Harry Mellow, referring to his wife Cathy and his son Jonathan.

"Tell him, that is not the way of the Matabele. The amadoda see no dignity nor great virtue in digging in the dirt. That is for women and amaholi." Part One: Pg 123
Gandang to Mungo St. John when Mungo shows up at his kraal in the early dawn with his troopers demanding Gandang give him two hundred men immediately to work the mine.

"From now until the hour, we must become fleas. We must live under the white men's cloak, so close to the skin that he does not see us, so close that he forgets we are there waiting to sting." Part One: Pg 130
Bazo to Gandang explaining how the remaining Matabele warriors cannot attack from the front and with honor as they always have. Now they will have to be discreet and wait for opportunity to take advantage of the white man's lack of attention and vigilance.

"Henshaw, my little Hawk, ... You screamed so loudly I thought you were losing your virginity - with a horn, from behind." Part One: Pg 160
Bazo to Ralph, mocking him after he was chased by the bull and almost gored.

"I measure a man by the style in which he faces adversity." Part One: Pg 193
Cecil Rhodes to Ralph Ballantyne after telling him he is robbing him of his coal claims.

"Not since the death of the old king has there been such despair in their hearts as now that the cattle are being killed." Part One - 1895: Pg 206
Babiaan, the most senior of the king's councilors reports to Bazo when asked the mood of the people.

"They were plotting one of the most audacious acts of piracy in history." Part One - 1895: Pg 218
Revelations regarding the takeover plans against Kruger and his Pretorian corps of German Krupp artillery.

"War makes monsters of us all." Part One - 1895: Pg 307
Sentence written by Ralph after he uses the Maxim on the Matabele women and children.

"We will speak only to Lodzi, and he must come to us unarmed. He must come to the Matapos without the soldiers. He may bring three other men with him, but none of them must carry a weapon." Part One - 1895: Pg 337
The message carried to Cecil Rhodes by way of Juba to Zouga. The Matabele are starving, and a resolution is at hand.



"He fooled them all, even those he led into captivity. Damn me, but it's a good thing they buried him in solid rock and put a lid on him, or he would have squared the devil and got out of it at the last moment." Part One - 1895: Pg. 345

Ralph to Elizabeth referring to Cecil Rhodes's funeral.

"A man without a past, is a man without a future." Part Two - 1977: Pg 353

Samson to Craig regarding his lack of knowledge of his family history.

"If a man doubts everything, then he will attempt nothing. The strong men of this world are the ones who are always certain of their own rightness." Part Two - 1977: Pg 384

Gideon Kumalo to Samson Kumalo when Samson doubts he has anything to teach the children of the mission.

"Then you must send someone in your place. Someone in whose veins runs the blood of Bazo the Axe, and Tanase the witch." Part Two - 1977: Pg 389

Comrade Tebe to Gideon Kumalo (aka Tungata Zebiwe) after Gideon tells him that he can't go because he is an old man, blind and feeble - unable to respond to the spirits of his ancestors.

"This is the song which you will sing as you go into battle, it is the song of your glory, it is the song of the revolution." Part Two - 1977: Pg 402

Comrade Tebe to the children on the bus.

"Out of every hundred terrors in the field, ninety or so of them hole up in good cover near a village which can supply them with food and young girls, and they try to keep out of danger and contact with our forces. But the hot ones are different. They are the tigers, the fanatics, the killers, these charts show their first team." Part Two - 1977: Pg 426

Craig Mellow to Janine Carpenter as he shows her the tracking system he is compiling to hunt and disband the worst of the revolutionary forces.

"To the average white man, one black face looks the same as every other..." Part Two - 1977: Pg 443

Dr. Leila St. John explaining to Douglas Hunt - Jeffreys why the revolutionaries seem to be able to travel from one end of the country to the other without being caught.

"There are areas which our sciences have not yet penetrated. She is an extraordinary woman. I don't believe everything about her, but I am aware of a force within her." Part Two - 1977: Pg 447

Dr. Leila St. John to Tungata Zebiwe after being asked if she believes the rhetoric and superstitions surrounding the Umlimo.

"Tell them my name is Tungata Zebiwe, the Seeker-after-what-has-been-Stolen - the Seeker after Justice, after Vengeance." Part Two - 1977: Pg 478

Tungata to Janine Carpenter after his men rape and sodomize her, leaving her for Roland and his scouts to find at the sight of the plane wreck.

"They left her alive. But when I found her, she couldn't speak, Sonny. She could only scream and struggle like a wild animal." Part Two - 1977: Pg 491



Roland to Craig, as he tries to push him to hurry his way through clearing the mine field for the Scouts to continue their pursuit of the revolutionaries.

"You won a land, but in doing so have you lost forever your humanity?" Part Two - 1977:
Pg 523

Janine to Minister Tungata as she pleads with him for a permit to export Craig's yacht and sail her.



Topics for Discussion

Why did the Matabele indunas have grievances against the British South African Company and what were they? Each side feels justified in their positions. Discuss the merits of each side, and what could have been done differently.

How does Ralph regain control of his camp? What forces are causing the disturbance and why? Why does Ralph's solution work and how long does it take? What is the crowning infraction made?

What secret is Bazo hiding from Ralph? What preparations is he making and what is the name it is given? What are the three prophecies made by the Imlimo regarding this issue?

What theory did Robyn postulate that caused her peers in the British Medical Association to challenge her openly for proof? How does she prove it? What oath did she swear to King Lobengula before his death that might be jeopardized by her actions.

What is the purpose of the Matabele's word perfect recall of each and every instruction?

Power shifts in the Matabele nation as the prophecy begins to fulfill itself. Who takes the seat of power, and why is this character the natural choice to lead them? Who seemingly has advance knowledge of this shift in power, and speculate as to the reasons this character would know in advance?

What is the underlying purpose to Cecil Rhodes's visit to London? What is his goal, and why does he pursue it to the degree that he does?

What does Ralph come to realize at the meeting that takes place at King's Lynn? What opportunity does he see through all of the plans being made?

What influence in Pretoria is Kruger flirting with, and why is it considered to be grounds for the planned actions by the Johannesburg Reform Committee?

What does Ralph do to ruin Cecil Rhodes? How does he attempt to keep his father out of it? Does his plan work and why or why not?

How does Ralph exact his revenge? How are the men who follow Ralph referred to? What acts of deception specifically do they engage in and what is the outcome in each case?

There are two reasons that Samson Kumalo joins the revolutionary forces and becomes Tungata Zebiwe. What are they and what are the reasons that Samson is chosen above another Matabele?

How does the revolution replenish their ranks? Why do they choose these particular individuals?



Why is it important to wait until morning before going through the mine field? How are the new recruits taken through and why is it unlikely that any of them would be able to find their own way back out?