

Maru Bessie Head The Main Character Analysis

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Maru - Bessie Head 2013-09-16

Read worldwide for her wisdom, authenticity, and skillful prose, South African-born Bessie Head (1937-1986) offers a moving and magical tale of an orphaned girl, Margaret Cadmore,

who goes to teach in a remote village in Botswana where her own people are kept as slaves. Her presence polarizes a community that does not see her people as human, and condemns her to the lonely life of an outcast. In

the love story and intrigue that follows, Head brilliantly combines a portrait of loneliness with a rich affirmation of the mystery and spirituality of life. The core of this otherworldly, rhapsodic work is a plot about racial injustice and prejudice with a lesson in how traditional intolerance may render whole sections of a society untouchable.

The Collector of Treasures and Other Botswana Village Tales - Bessie Head

2013-10-09

“Bessie Head’s short stories have an extraordinary simplicity and breadth of vision,” heralded a review in The Tribune after publication of Head’s first collection of short stories, The Collector of Treasures. Regarded today as one of Africa’s best-known woman writers in English, Head draws on the rich oral tradition of southern Africa and masterfully applies storytelling’s language and imagery. Carefully sequenced, the anthology gives special focus to village people from independence-era

Botswana and the status, position, and plight of African women.

The Cardinals, with Meditations and Short Stories - Bessie Head 1995

The Cardinals--thought to be the first long piece of fiction Head produced and the only one she ever set in South Africa--is an exciting literary event.

Life - Bessie Head 1993

Bessie Head and the Trauma of Exile - Joshua Agbo 2021-06-17

This book investigates themes of exile and oppression in Southern Africa across Bessie Head’s novels and short fiction. An exile herself, arriving in Botswana as a South African refugee, Bessie Head’s fiction serves as an important example of African exile literature. This book argues that Head’s characters are driven to exile as a result of their socio- political ambivalence while still in South Africa, and that this sense of discomfort follows them to their new lives.

Investigating themes of trauma and identity politics across colonial and post-colonial contexts, this book also addresses the important theme of black-on-black prejudice and hostility which is often overlooked in studies of Head's work. Covering Head's shorter fiction as well as her major novels *When Rain Clouds Gather* (1969), *Maru* (1971), *A Question of Power* (1973), *Serowe: Village of the Rain Wind* (1981), and *A Bewitched Crossroads: An African Saga* (1984), this book will be of interest to researchers of African literature and postcolonial history.

White Dog Fell From the Sky - Eleanor Morse
2013-04-04

Incredibly moving and beautifully drawn, *White Dog Fell From the Sky* by Eleanor Morse is an intimate portrait of Africa. Botswana, 1976. Isaac Muthethe thinks that he is dead. Forced to flee his country after witnessing a friend murdered by white members of the South African Defense Force, he finds himself, for the

first time, in a country without apartheid. Smuggled across the border from South Africa in a hearse, buried in a coffin, he awakens covered in dust, staring at blue sky and the face of White Dog. Walking along the road into Gaborone, Botswana's capital, White Dog following close behind, a chance encounter with an old school acquaintance changes the course of Isaac's life - as does the job he finds as gardener for a young American woman, Alice Mendelssohn, who has abandoned her Ph.D. studies in order to follow her husband to Africa. But when Isaac goes missing and Alice goes searching for him, what she finds out will change her life and inextricably bind her to this sunburned, beautiful land. 'Eleanor Morse captures the magic of the African landscape and the terror and degradation of life under apartheid in *White Dog Fell from the Sky* . . . tense and heartfelt' O, The Oprah Magazine 'Magic, friendship, the tragedy of apartheid and the triumph of loyalty are recounted in poetic, powerful prose by this

unconventional and intelligent writer. Shattering and uplifting' Kuki Gallmann, author of *I Dreamed of Africa* 'Morse's writing is lyrical and quite beautiful, with searing descriptions of the dusty earth, unforgiving sun, and stark skies' Entertainment Weekly Eleanor Morse has taught in adult education programs, in prisons, and in university systems, both in Maine and in southern Africa. She currently works as an adjunct faculty member with Spalding University's MFA Writing program in Louisville, Kentucky. She lives on Peaks Island, Maine.

Transparent Minds - Dorrit Claire Cohn
2020-05-26

This book investigates the entire spectrum of techniques for portraying the mental lives of fictional characters in both the stream-of-consciousness novel and other fiction. Each chapter deals with one main technique, illustrated from a wide range of nineteenth- and twentieth-century fiction by writers including Stendhal, Dostoevsky, James, Mann, Kafka,

Joyce, Proust, Woolf, and Sarraute.

Travelling While Black - Nanjala Nyabola
2021-02-01

What does it feel like to move through a world designed to limit and exclude you? What are the joys and pains of holidays for people of colour, when guidebooks are never written with them in mind? How are black lives today impacted by the othering legacy of colonial cultures and policies? What can travel tell us about our sense of self, of home, of belonging and identity? Why has the world order become hostile to human mobility, as old as humanity itself, when more people are on the move than ever? Nanjala Nyabola is constantly exploring the world, working with migrants and confronting complex realities challenging common assumptions - both hers and others'. From Nepal to Botswana, Sicily to Haiti, New York to Nairobi, her sharp, humane essays ask tough questions and offer surprising, deeply shocking and sometimes funny answers. It is time we saw the world through her eyes.

Fragments - Ayi Kwei Armah 2006

A member of the African elite groping his way out of the background of slavery and colonialism, Baako sees his education as preparation for the lifework of a socially innovative artist. His family, more pragmatic, expects an elite resume to convert into power and wealth in the real world here and now. Unable to harmonize contervailing needs with wider social aspirations, both family and individual drift toward confrontation and inexorable loss. -- From back cover.

X-kit Literature Series: FET Maru - Colleen Traviss-Lea 2005

In Conversation with Bessie Head - Mary S. Lederer 2020-12-24

In Conversation with Bessie Head shows how reading the novels and letters of Botswana's most influential writer, Bessie Head, fosters an ongoing conversation between reader and writer and is in fact a very personal undertaking. Each

chapter tackles two parallel threads, the first regarding Mary S. Lederer's own history of reading Head-from her first purchase of Maru, through completing a Ph.D. on Head's trilogy, through living in Botswana and connecting with various aspects of Head's life, to examining how reading Head has affected her own development as a human being. This history then ties each chapter into discussion of how Head develops her own vision of the "brotherhood of man." Alongside critically informed discussion, Head's vision is examined through the prism of specific questions. Why is madness not a useful concept for understanding Head's ideas? Why did Head say she was not a feminist, and what is the significance of "male" and "female" in her novels? What is the relationship between individual, race, and community? How can the nature of God be a clear expression of love but also an indistinct force for both good and evil? Head's novels present opportunities for personal growth, and through these "conversations" with

her, we become different readers.

When Rain Clouds Gather - Bessie Head

2013-09-23

Rural Botswana is the backdrop for *When Rain Clouds Gather*, the first novel published by one of Africa's leading woman writers in English, Bessie Head (1937-1986). Inspired by her own traumatic life experiences as an outcast in Apartheid South African society and as a refugee living at the Bamangwato Development Association Farm in Botswana, Head's tough and telling classic work is set in the poverty-stricken village of Golema Mmidi, a haven to exiles. A South African political refugee and an Englishman join forces to revolutionize the villagers' traditional farming methods, but their task is fraught with hazards as the pressures of tradition, opposition from the local chief, and the unrelenting climate threaten to divide and devastate the fragile community. Head's layered, compelling story confronts the complexities of such topics as social and political change,

conflict between science and traditional ways, tribalism, the role of traditional African chiefs, religion, race relations, and male-female relations.

Crick Crack, Monkey - Merle Hodge 2000

After losing their parents, Tee and her brother Toddan are taken in by their exuberant aunt Tantie, but when Tee wins a scholarship and moves in with Aunt Beatrice, she finds herself challenged by race and class conscious middle class values.

Kaffir Boy - Mark Mathabane 2008-06-26

A Black writer describes his childhood in South Africa under apartheid and recounts how Arthur Ashe and Stan Smith helped him leave for America on a tennis scholarship

Bessie Head - Gillian Stead Eilersen 1995

Bessie Head - *Thunder Behind Her Ears* is an engrossing biography of the turbulent life of one of Africa's great writers, whose reputation is growing by the year. It describes with insight the driving force of Bessie's writing talent, her

fiery personality and her often grinding circumstances.

A Question of Power - Bessie Head 2012-10-01

In the village of Motabeng, Botswana - the place of sand - Elizabeth and her son have made their new home, far away from their old life in South Africa. But the past cannot be conveniently left behind at the border. Even though she may be free to reinvent herself in this new country, Elizabeth's mixed racial heritage and urban ways mark her as an outsider. A mind-bending novel that takes the reader in and out of sanity, this semi-autobiographical work tracks Elizabeth's struggle to emerge from the oppressive social situation in which she finds herself and from the nightmares and hallucinations that torment her.

Bitter Fruit - Achmat Dangor 2005

Crimes from the past erupt into the present, splintering Silas Ali's fragile peace of mind, in the tale of a brittle South African family on the crossroads of history. Reader's Guide available.

Original. 25,000 first printing.

Tales of Tenderness and Power - Bessie Head
1990

This is an anthology of stories, personal observations and historic legends. It reflects the author's fascination with Africa's people and their history as well as her identification with individuals and their conflicting emotions.

Black Skin, White Masks - Frantz Fanon
2017-05-09

Black Skin, White Masks is a classic, devastating account of the dehumanising effects of colonisation experienced by black subjects living in a white world. First published in English in 1967, this book provides an unsurpassed study of the psychology of racism using scientific analysis and poetic grace. Franz Fanon identifies a devastating pathology at the heart of Western culture, a denial of difference, that persists to this day. A major influence on civil rights, anti-colonial, and black consciousness movements around the world, his writings speak to all who

continue the struggle for political and cultural liberation. With an introduction by Paul Gilroy, author of *There Ain't No Black in the Union Jack*. Wizard of the Crow - Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o 2007

Song of Lawino and Song of Ocol - Okot pBitek 2013-12-29

Song of Lawino and Song of Ocol are among the most successful African literary works. Song of Lawino is an African woman's lamentation over the cultural death of her western educated husband - Ocol. In Song of Ocol the husband tries to justify his cultural apostasy. These songs were translated from Acholi by the author. They evince a fascinating flavour of the African rhythmical idiom.

Characterization in Bessie Head's Fiction - Sebagenzi Wa Lulenga 1983

A Woman Alone - Bessie Head 2007

A collection of autobiographical writings, sketches, and essays that covers the entire span

of Bessie Head's creative life.

Such a Lonely, Lovely Road - Kagiso Lesego Molepe 2018-08-24

Coming out in South Africa. Kabelo Mosala has been the perfect child, bright and attractive. In his small South African community, it is expected that he will return after university to join his father's medical practice. But all the while Kabelo and his schoolmate Sediba have harboured a strong mutual attraction that dare not show itself in the open. As they mature into young adulthood, and Kabelo becomes a doctor, they form a strong romantic relationship of intermittent secret encounters. But Kabelo is torn between his love for Sediba and his responsibility to his family and community. Can he return, openly declare his gay relationship, and yet serve his people who need him, at a time when young people are increasingly succumbing to the ravages of AIDS? In this tender love story, in her characteristic, beautifully modulated voice, with razor-sharp clarity Kagiso Lesego

Molope tackles an urgent issue in her country of birth.

You Can't Get Lost in Cape Town - Zoë Wicomb 2015-04-25

The South African novel of identity that "deserves a wide audience on a par with Nadine Gordimer."

The River's Song - Suchen Christine Lim 2014-04-01

Voted Best Indie Book by Kirkus Reviews and awarded a prestigious Blue Star. Ping, an American citizen, returns to Singapore after many years and sees a country transformed by prosperity. Gone are the boatmen and hawkers who once lived along the crowded riverside and in their place rise the gleaming towers of the financial district. Her childhood growing up among the river people had been very different, and leaving her first love Weng, a musician, for America, had been devastating. Now that she is back in Singapore, can she face her former lover and reveal the secret that has separated them

for many years? Reviews: "Lim's affecting, lushly textured historical novel... A fine, deeply felt saga of lives caught up in progress that's as heartbreaking as it is hopeful." Kirkus, 5 * Blue Star Review "The River's Song is a startling work of brilliance that leaves the reader spellbound." kitaab.org "...just as the best novels should be but so rarely are: like immersion in a vivid dream. I couldn't decide whether to read it slowly in order to savour every word, or to race along, mesmerised by Lim's dazzling storytelling." Jill Dawson, British author of *The Great Lover*, (Richard and Judy's Bookclub) "...a winning coming of age novel that bridges the years and countries. Here is the buoyancy of sentences and a testimony of resilience." Krys Lee, award-winning Korean author of *The Drifting House* "...powerful, deep and moving - draws you in and pulls you along irresistibly. Its heartfelt swell will carry you away to a place of passion and resonant conviction." Kevin MacNeil, Scottish author of the best-selling *The*

Stornoway Way “A touching story that retrieves Singapore’s fast disappearing past and gives its famous river the depth and colour of a people’s history, and a wonderful rendition of the pipa, on the page, as mother and daughter play their songs from the heart.” Romesh Gunasekera author of Reef, shortlisted for the Booker Prize Singapore Literature Prize Winner and South East Asia Write Award winner Suchen Christine Lim is one of Singapore’s most distinguished writers. In 1992, her third novel, Fistful of Colours, was awarded the Inaugural Singapore Literature Prize. A Bit Of Earth (2000), her fourth novel, and her popular short-story collection, The Lies That Build A Marriage (2007) were later shortlisted for the same prize. Awarded a Fulbright grant in 1997, she is a Fellow of the International Writers Program, University of Iowa, and the first Singapore writer honoured as the university’s International Writer-in-Residence in 2000. A regular guest at Writers' Festivals in Singapore, Malaysia,

Philippines, Australia, and UK she has also held writing residencies in Myanmar, the Philippines, South Korea and at the University of Western Australia in Perth. In 2011, she was the Visiting Fellow in Creative Writing at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. In 2012, she won the South East Asia Write Award. In the UK, she has regularly been writer-in-residence at the Arvon Foundation and has tutored at Moniack Mhor in Scotland.

The Shadow of Imana - Véronique Tadjo
2015-03-04

As evidence emerged of the genocide in Rwanda in 1994, the outside world reeled in shock. What could have motivated these individual and collective acts of evil? In 1998, Véronique Tadjo traveled to Rwanda to try to find out. She started with the premise that what happened in Rwanda concerns us all: “We need to understand. Our humanity is in peril.” The Shadow of Imana is a reminder that humankind the world over is capable of genocide. Records

of what the author saw—sites of massacres, corpses, weapons dumps—are combined with personal stories of traumatized returnees, bereaved survivors, rape victims, orphans, lawyers faced with the impossible task of doing justice, prisoners. But Tadjó's story goes beyond mere reportage of death and cruelty. Her poetically wrought account incorporates traditional tales, explores the spiritual legacy of the genocide, and uncovers a healing vitality as well as a commitment to forgiveness. Véronique Tadjó was born in Paris and grew up in Côte d'Ivoire. *The Shadow of Imana* has been translated from the French by Véronique Wakerley.

Monstrous Intimacies - Christina Sharpe
2010-09-07

Arguing that the fundamental, familiar, sexual violence of slavery and racialized subjugation have continued to shape black and white subjectivities into the present, Christina Sharpe interprets African diasporic and Black Atlantic

visual and literary texts that address those “monstrous intimacies” and their repetition as constitutive of post-slavery subjectivity. Her illuminating readings juxtapose Frederick Douglass's narrative of witnessing the brutal beating of his Aunt Hester with Essie Mae Washington-Williams's declaration of freedom in *Dear Senator: A Memoir by the Daughter of Strom Thurmond*, as well as the “generational genital fantasies” depicted in Gayl Jones's novel *Corregidora* with a firsthand account of such “monstrous intimacies” in the journals of an antebellum South Carolina senator, slaveholder, and vocal critic of miscegenation. Sharpe explores the South African-born writer Bessie Head's novel *Maru*—about race, power, and liberation in Botswana—in light of the history of the KhoiSan woman Saartje Baartman, who was displayed in Europe as the “Hottentot Venus” in the nineteenth century. Reading Isaac Julien's film *The Attendant*, Sharpe takes up issues of representation, slavery, and the sadomasochism

of everyday black life. Her powerful meditation on intimacy, subjection, and subjectivity culminates in an analysis of Kara Walker's black silhouettes, and the critiques leveled against both the silhouettes and the artist.

Circles In A Forest - Dalene Matthee

2006-12-01

Saul Barnard is a man with a self-imposed mission - to halt the wanton destruction of the Knysna Forest, home of wild elephants and the fiercely independent families of woodcutters. For years he has protected the forest from intruders, and has developed a mystical kinship with the spirit of Old Foot, the majestic and indomitable bull elephant. When word goes round that Old Foot is on the rampage, Saul is propelled towards a terrible confrontation that will change his future for ever.

The Translator - Leila Aboulela 2007-12-01

A New York Times Notable Book: "Aboulela's lovely, brief story encompasses worlds of melancholy and gulfs between cultures" (Kirkus

Reviews, starred review). American readers were introduced to the award-winning Sudanese author Leila Aboulela with *Minaret*, a delicate tale of a privileged young African Muslim woman adjusting to her new life as a maid in London. Now, for the first time in North America, we step back to her extraordinarily assured debut about a widowed Muslim mother living in Aberdeen who falls in love with a Scottish secular academic. Sammar is a Sudanese widow working as an Arabic translator at a Scottish university. Since the sudden death of her husband, her young son has gone to live with family in Khartoum, leaving Sammar alone in cold, gray Aberdeen, grieving and isolated. But when she begins to translate for Rae, a Scottish Islamic scholar, the two develop a deep friendship that awakens in Sammar all the longing for life she has repressed. As Rae and Sammar fall in love, she knows they will have to address his lack of faith in all that Sammar holds sacred. An exquisitely crafted meditation on love, both

human and divine, The Translator is ultimately the story of one woman's courage to stay true to her beliefs, herself, and her newfound love. "A story of love and faith all the more moving for the restraint with which it is written." —J. M. Coetzee

Ambiguous Adventure - Hamidou Kane 1972
Sambo Diallo is unable to identify with the soulless material civilization he finds in France, where he is sent to learn the secrets of the white man's power.

Little Suns - Zakes Mda 2015-12-03

'There are many suns,' he said. 'Each day has its own. Some are small, some are big. I'm named after the small ones.' It is 1903. A lame and frail Malangana - 'Little Suns' - searches for his beloved Mthwakazi after many lonely years spent in Lesotho. Mthwakazi was the young woman he had fallen in love with twenty years earlier, before the assassination of Hamilton Hope ripped the two of them apart. Intertwined with Malangana's story, is the account of Hope -

a colonial magistrate who, in the late nineteenth century, was undermining the local kingdoms of the eastern Cape in order to bring them under the control of the British. It was he who wanted to coerce Malangana's king and his people, the amaMpondomise, into joining his battle - a scheme Malangana's conscience could not allow. Zakes Mda's fine new novel *Little Suns* weaves the true events surrounding the death of Magistrate Hope into a touching story of love and perseverance that can transcend exile and strife.

The Madonna of Excelsior - Zakes Mda
2007-05-15

A new novel by a towering presence in contemporary South African literature In 1971, nineteen citizens of Excelsior in South Africa's white-ruled Free State were charged with breaking apartheid's Immorality Act, which forbade sex between blacks and whites. Taking this case as raw material for his alchemic imagination, Zakes Mda tells the story of a

family at the heart of the scandal -and of a country in which apartheid concealed interracial liaisons of every kind. Niki, the fallen madonna, transgresses boundaries for the sake of love; her choices have repercussions in the lives of her black son and mixed-race daughter, who come of age in post-apartheid South Africa, where freedom prompts them to reexamine their country's troubled history at first hand. By turns earthy, witty, and tragic, *The Madonna of Excelsior* is a brilliant depiction of life in South Africa and of the dramatic changes between the 1970s and the present.

Serowe - Bessie Head 2008-01-01

This work provides an insight into the Serowe village community and its history.

Bessie Head - Huma Ibrahim 1996

One of the foremost African writers of our time, who dispelled the silence between colonial and feminist discourses by "talking back", Bessie Head at last gets her due in this first book-length, comprehensive study of her work. This

book locates Head's unquestionable importance in the canon of African literature. Author Huma Ibrahim argues that unless we are able to look at the merging of women's sexual and linguistic identity with their political and gendered identity, the careful configurations created in Head's work will elude us. Ibrahim offers a series of thoughtful readings informed by feminist, diasporan, postcolonial, and poststructuralist insights and concerns. She identifies a theme she calls "exilic consciousness" - the desire to belong - and traces its manifestations through each phase of Head's work, showing how "women's talk" - a marginalized commodity in the construction of southern Africa - is differently embodied and evaluated. Bessie Head's works are frequently featured in courses in African literature, third-world literature, and fiction writing, but there is little critical material on them. Ibrahim offers readings of Head's novels *When Rain Clouds Gather*, *Maru*, and *A Question of Power*, as well

as the collections Tales of Tenderness and Power, A Collector of Treasures, A Woman Alone: Autobiographical Writings, and The Cardinals, the histories Serowe: Village of the Rain Wind and A Bewitched Crossroad, and her letters to Robert Vigne collected in A Gesture of Belonging. In Head's exploration of oppressed people, especially women and those in exile, Ibrahim finds startling insights into institutional power relations. Head not only subverts Western hegemonic notions of the third-world woman but offers a critique of postcoloniality.

Bessie Head - Joyce Johnson 2008

Introduces key concepts needed for map reading and map making. This series explores different types of maps, photographs and illustrations, and includes activities and quizzes, making it ideal for learning essential map skills.

In the Fog of the Seasons' End - Alex La Guma 2012-09-21

La Guma's powerful, firsthand account depicts the dedicated South African people who risked

their lives in the underground movement against apartheid. The main characters, Beukes and Elias, are among others determined to undermine apartheid's blatant oppression and demeaning tactics. The authors' knack for rich descriptions and weaving the past with the present transports readers to the grind of working in an underground political organization and the challenges of confronting hardships, change, and injustice on a daily basis.

Doctor Faustus - Christopher Marlowe 2003

This new edition of Dr. Faustus presents the play in its original spelling with extensive commentary and textual apparatus. Based on the edition of 1604, the book includes an introduction that presents a new theory of the text and its transmission, and appendices that outline different theories of the text and provide both the alternative passages from the 1616 edition and extracts from The English Faustbook, which was the play's principal source.

The Collector of Treasures - Bessie Head 1995

The Golden Day - Ursula Dubosarsky 2013-08-06

When their teacher goes missing during an outing, eleven girls grapple with the aftermath in this haunting, exquisitely told psychological mystery. The Vietnam War rages overseas, but back at home, in a year that begins with the hanging of one man and ends with the drowning of another, eleven schoolgirls embrace their own chilling history when their teacher abruptly goes

missing on a field trip. Who was the mysterious poet they had met in the Garden? What actually happened in the seaside cave that day? And most important — who can they tell about it? In beautifully shimmering prose, Ursula Dubosarsky reveals how a single shared experience can alter the course of young lives forever. Part gripping thriller, part ethereal tale of innocence lost, *The Golden Day* is a poignant study of fear and friendship, and of what it takes to come of age with courage.