

SHORT SUMMARY

MEMORISE THE SHORT SUMMARY AND THEN – READ THE DETAILED SUMMARY WRITTEN IN MY OWN HANDWRITING IN THE STUDY GUIDE.

WHEN RAIN CLOUDS GATHER

Who is telling the story?

Third person narrator.

When?

Bessie Head wrote the book.

White mom and black father.

Adopted

Primary school teacher

Worked for DRUM

1964 Left SA for Botswana

Famous writer

1979 Botswana Citizenship

CHAPTER 1

Makhaya, a Zulu, hide in Baralong village.

Cross the border when dark.

Slept over at a woman and a year old girl.

Stopped a truck.

Dropped him at railway crossing.

Report at police – George Appleby-Smith

Do you like Kwame Nkrumah?

Dinorego

Sekoto discovered that Matenge wants to assassinate him.

Sekoto made younger brother Matenge the sub chief and administrator of Golema Mmidi.

Gilbert Balfour – Agricultural development – England.

Sekoto worried because Gilbert wants to uplift the poor.

Sekoto uses the poor as slaves!

Put Gilbert under Matenge in Golema Mmidi to sort each other out.

Pelotona – Permit man – Worked for Matenge.

Gilbert – weight beast on a scale for a fair price.

Pelotona works for gilbert.

Matenge banished Pelotona.

Pelotona went to see Sekoto.

White woman from England says... Pelotona stays right here. We pay his salary.

Mma-Millipede – Dinorego's friend.

Dinorego stays with his youngest child – Maria.

Gilbert needed Makhaya.

Makhaya worked for a newspaper in Jhb.

No soft grass – Just carrot-seed grass.

Matenge did not want fencing.

Sekoto said yes – fencing.

Co-operative = communal ownership.

Matenge worried about Makhaya's presence.

Matenge – Divorced. Wife kept the 2 children. Joas Tsepe stayed with him.

Mma-Millipedi – Was married to a son of a chief.

Joas Tsepe: Under-secretary-general of the Botswana National Liberation Party.

4/5 Such parties.

First against colonialism and then against own voted government.

Do not vote for chiefs.

Government was sons of chiefs with no-chief policy.

No they become pro-chief supporters.

Joas first worked in SA

Go back to Botswana and fight for liberation.

Minister of Finance.

Joas worked for Matenge.

Re-establish the cattle-speculation and Educate people of socialism.

Matenge drove to Sekoto – because of Makhaya.

Sekoto and his concubines.

Permanent residence for 3 months in this mansion with concubines.

Sekoto's eldest son took the concubine away. Walked out of the house because he had a good character.

Case: Mma-Baloi – village of Bodibeng – witchcraft.

One beast every household.

Mma-Baloi stayed with Sekoto.

Matenge wants to resign from admin duty.

Makhaya goes or I go.

Report it to George Appleby-Smith.

Sekoto left to eat with George Appleby-Smith.

Sekoto says Gilbert must carry on because he is not "bullshitting"

George took an application for residence to Makhaya Maseko.

Makhaya must report his presence to Matenge tomorrow.

Makhaya went to see Sekoto.

People from outside like Makhaya causes trouble.

Ask Makhaya to leave. Makhaya said no.

Will make life difficult for Makhaya.

Major Ross chief immigration officer – Said already gave Makhaya residence permission.

Thought it was his association with Joas Tsepe. Will rid himself from the company of Joas.

Matenge one month in hospital with blood pressure.

Joas in jail.

Said his party and those of chiefs was the same.

Mma-Milipedi

Grown up together with Dinorego.

Mothers arranged marriage between them.

Mma-Milipedi's religion caught Ramagodi's attention.. Son of the reigning chief.

Ramagodi's mother spoke to Mma-Milipedi's parents for marriage. Said no.

Treated as a slave.

Forced Dinorego's parents to get another bride for him.

Terrorized. Must say yes to marry Ramagodi.

One child.

Ramagodi wanted his youngest brother's wife.

Brother committed suicide.

Divorce Mma-Millipedi

Her son was exiled to a faraway place. Wanted to kill his father.

Stayed with Dinorego and his wife.

She became a trader also of skin.

Batho – Oh, People!

Dinorego wanted Makhaya to marry Maria.

Paulina

Lived one and a half years there before Makhaya.

Come as a Northener.

Spoke Tswana.

Married at 18

Rhodesian man.

Suicide – accused of taken money.

Bookkeeper.

Took his property.

Son 10 daughter 8.

Son Isaac – cattle post.

Paulina – flat chested.

My mom sends you her greetings.

Distressed sh run to Mma-Millipede.

Gilbert said to Makhaya: I hope you do not love maria too.

I'm going to marry your daughter tomorrow.

You're Kipling's "Thousandth Man".

Chapter 7

Cultivate Turkish tabacco – build a drying shed.

Sekoto did not mind about delepment projects.

Gilbert offers Paulina a salary and a position as part of the staff.

Isaac had tuberculosis.

Makhaya had acquired enough hatred to become a mass murderer.

Mma Millipedi invited Makhaya.

Favourite pastime – Reading Tswana Bible.

Dinorego helped with the drying process.

Makhaya started with the dams – dynamite.

Chapter 10

Matenge – Nobody asked permission to progress.

Sekoto to blame – break rules.

Rainclouds always gather in September. Not this year. Cattle dropped dead.

Paulina asked Rankoane about her son.

Signed a contract with a cigarette manufacturer to buy tobacco.

Makhaya walked to Paulina in the dark. She said she love him. He went into her hut.

Boy is dead.

Bundle of carved wood.

Makhaya burned the bones. Took the ash and the bundle of wood carvings.

Asked Maria to give the ash to Paulina.

No tears.

Blamed herself for his death.

Kill herself.

Maria said to Mkhaya – we keep the rivers inside us.

Makhaya took the bundle to Paulina after all the people left. She cried.

Chapter 12

Makhaya – African custom. Stay with women before they marry.

Messenger to Paulina. Chief Matenge has a case against her.

Matenge stayed inside.

Gilbert/Makhaya and Polentona – Saw vultures circling.

Makhaya broke down the door.

Makhaya hanged from a rafter.

Called George.

Called Sekoto to bring a coffin.

Paulina for an unknown offence.

Village men lifted the body gently and put it in the coffin.

Villagers, Mma-Millipedi & Dinorego went to the funeral.

Mma-Millipedi studied wandering tribes of Israel.

Like to marry me Paulie.