

Wiphold (D): Back To Private... Case Solution

By: Ngugi wa Thiong'o

TheCaseSolutions.com



By: Ariana Candito, Sara Zilli & Victoria Puglisi

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Summary**

Karim's main character was essential for 3 years, and he had to return to his village and start his life over when that. It was his return to the village he discovered that the search had found. The village was very strange. Not only that, but his wife had been kidnapped. Karim took her name as well as his wife's and found them in the river and washed them back down the river.

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Summary

Kamau (the main character) was sent to jail for 5 years, and hoped to return to his village and start his life over (clean slate). Upon his return to the village he discovered that the British had invaded; the village was unrecognizable. Not only that, but his wife left him because she thought he was dead. Feeling angry and betrayed, Kamau took his now ex wife's belongings and threw them into the river and watched them float down the river.



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Plot

Main Character/Protagonist - Kamau

Antagonist - Karanja

Setting - Lamu, Kenya in 1950s



TheCaseSolutions.com **Initial Conflict**

Person vs. Society



Person vs. Person



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Mau Mau Rebellion

- The British invaded Kenya
- The Kenyans wanted to be free of the British rule

Analysis

- Kamau might have been one of the many people who stood up to the British - which may be why he was sent to the detention camp

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TheCaseSolutions.com **Initial Conflict**

Person vs. Society



Person vs. Person



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Kamau and Karanja

- Karanja assumed that Kamau was dead so he can be with Muthoni (Kamau's wife)

→ "...Karanja had always been his rival."

(Thiong'o 49)

→ "'I knew my son would come. I knew he was not dead.' 'Why, who told you I was dead?' 'That Karanja, son of Njogu.'"

(Thiong'o 48)

- Because of Karanja, Kamau had lost his wife

→ "We let Karanja go with her"

(Thiong'o 48)

Literary Devices

Personification

A figure of speech in which a thing, idea, or an animal is given human attributes.

"...little clouds of dust rose, whirled angrily behind him..."
(Things & 44)

"...their sticky-looking crops, maize, beans, and peas appeared much as everything else did - unfriendly."
(Things & 44)

Foreshadowing

The use of indicative word or phrases and hints that set the stage for a story to unfold and give the reader a hint of something that is going to happen without revealing the story or spoiling the suspense.

"Oh, is it you, Kamau? We thought you-" she did not continue."
(Things & 45)

"Life would indeed begin anew."
(Things & 44)

Imagery

Words and phrases used to create "mental images" for the reader

"Beyond, the deep, blood-red sinking sun sent out finger-like streaks of light that thinned outwards and mingled with the grey mist shrouding the distant hills."
(Things & 45)

Foil

Another character in a story who contrasts with the main character, usually to highlight one of their attributes

- This relates to Person vs. Person with Kamau and Karanja
- Karanja's character is recognized through the conflict between him and Kamau

Irony

Can be a situation that may end up in quite a different way than what is generally anticipated (difference between the appearance and the reality).

- After his return home from prison, he was so excited to see his village and be with his beautiful wife
- When he got to the village, he had realized that it had been invaded by the British and he had also lost his wife because of Karanja

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