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Fall Apart **Afrocentric Reading of Things Fall Apart and**  
**Waiting for the Rain** *Things Fall Apart* **My Name Is Red** **How**  
**We Fall Apart** *CliffsNotes on Achebe's Things Fall Apart* Home  
and Exile *Chinua Achebe's "Things Fall Apart". Read in*  
*Modernistic Terms* **And Then Things Fall Apart** **The Selfless Act**  
**of Breathing** **Reading Chinua Achebe** Things Fall Apart  
**Bonaparte Falls Apart** *The Descendants* **Things Fall Apart** *The*  
*African Trilogy* **No Longer at Ease** **Hopes and Impediments**  
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**Guide** *The Burning Forest* Why Nations Fail **Understanding**  
**Things Fall Apart** **Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of 'Things**  
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Catches You and You Fall Down Understanding Things Fall Apart  
The Silent World of Nicholas Quinn

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A wealth of documents and commentary on the historical, social, and cultural contexts of Things Fall Apart. Set in an Ibo village in Nigeria, the novel recreates pre-Christian tribal life and shows how the coming the white man led to the breaking up of the old ways. Unlock the more straightforward side of Things Fall Apart with this concise and insightful summary and analysis! This engaging summary presents an analysis of Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe, which centres on the great warrior and champion wrestler Okonkwo as he deals with the challenges resulting from disagreements in his clan, the arrival of white missionaries in his

village and the mounting tension between tradition and modernity. The engaging narrative provides a compelling, immersive portrait of Igbo life in Achebe's native Nigeria and a thoughtful exploration of the impact of colonialism and of themes such as masculinity, honour, pride and disobedience. Chinua Achebe was a Nigerian writer who sought to use his novels, short stories, essays and poetry to examine the struggles facing his country and expand popular conceptions of Africa and its people. He is widely considered to be the founding father of modern African literature. Find out everything you need to know about *Things Fall Apart* in a fraction of the time! This in-depth and informative reading guide brings you:

- A complete plot summary
- Character studies
- Key themes and symbols
- Questions for further reflection

Why choose BrightSummaries.com? Available in print and digital format, our publications are designed to accompany you on your reading journey. The clear and concise style makes for easy understanding, providing the perfect opportunity to improve your literary knowledge in no time. See the very best of literature in a whole new light with BrightSummaries.com!

In a YA thriller that is *Crazy Rich Asians* meets *One of Us is Lying*, students at an elite prep school are forced to confront their secrets when their ex-best friend turns up dead. Nancy Luo is shocked when her former best friend, Jamie Ruan, top-ranked junior at Sinclair Prep, goes missing, and then is found dead. Nancy is even more shocked when word starts to spread that she and her friends--Krystal, Akil, and Alexander--are the prime suspects, thanks to "the Proctor," someone anonymously incriminating them via the school's social media app. They all used to be Jamie's closest friends, and she knew each of their deepest, darkest secrets. Now, somehow the Proctor knows them, too. The four must uncover the true killer before The Proctor exposes more than they can bear and costs them more than they can afford, like Nancy's full scholarship. Soon, Nancy suspects that her friends may be keeping secrets from her, too. Katie Zhao's YA debut is an edge-

of-your-seat drama set in the pressure-cooker world of academics and image at Sinclair Prep, where the past threatens the future these teens have carefully crafted for themselves. *How We Fall Apart* is the irresistible, addicting, Asian-American recast of *Gossip Girl* that we've all been waiting for. *The Silent World of Nicholas Quinn* is the third novel in Colin Dexter's Oxford-set detective series. Morse had never ceased to wonder why, with the staggering advances in medical science, all pronouncements concerning times of death seemed so disconcertingly vague. The newly appointed member of the Oxford Examinations Syndicate was deaf, provincial and gifted. Now he is dead . . . And his murder, in his north Oxford home, proves to be the start of a formidably labyrinthine case for Chief Inspector Morse, as he tries to track down the killer through the insular and bitchy world of the Oxford Colleges . . . *The Silent World of Nicholas Quinn* is followed by the fourth Inspector Morse book, *Service of All the Dead*. Okonkwo is the greatest warrior alive, famous throughout West Africa. But when he accidentally kills a clansman, things begin to fall apart. Then Okonkwo returns from exile to find missionaries and colonial governors have arrived in the village. With his world thrown radically off-balance he can only hurtle towards tragedy. Chinua Achebe's stark novel reshaped both African and world literature. This arresting parable of a proud but powerless man witnessing the ruin of his people begins Achebe's landmark trilogy of works chronicling the fate of one African community, continued in *Arrow of God* and *No Longer at Ease*. Chinua Achebe is considered the father of African literature in English, the writer who 'opened the magic casements of African fiction' for an international readership. Following the 50th anniversary of the publication of his ground-breaking *Things Fall Apart*, Everyman republish Achebe's first and most famous novel alongside *No Longer at Ease* and *Arrow of God*, under the collective title *The African Trilogy*. In *Things Fall Apart* the individual tragedy of Okonkwo, 'strong man' and tribal elder in the Nigeria of

the 1890s is intertwined with the transformation of traditional Igbo society under the impact of Christianity and colonialism. In *No Longer at Ease*, Okonkwo's grandson, Obi, educated in England, returns to a civil-service job in colonial Lagos, only to clash with the ruling elite to which he now believes he belongs. *Arrow of God* is set in the 1920s and explores the conflict from the two points of view - often, but not always, opposing - of Ezuezu, an Igbo priest, and Captain Winterbottom, a British district officer. In spare and lucid prose, Achebe tells a universal tale of personal and moral struggle in a changing world which continues to resonate in Africa today and has captured the imaginations of readers everywhere. A Reader's Guide to one of the best known African novels, Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* A heartbreaking, lyrical story for all of those who have fantasized about escaping their daily lives and starting over. Michael Kabongo is a British-Congolese teacher living in London on the cusp of two identities. On paper, he seems to have it all: He's beloved by his students, popular with his coworkers, and the pride and joy of a mother who emigrated from the Congo to the UK in search of a better life. But behind closed doors, he's been struggling with the overwhelming sense that he can't address the injustices he sees raging before him—from his relentless efforts to change the lives of his students for the better to his attempts to transcend the violence and brutality that marginalizes young Black men around the world. Then one day he suffers a devastating loss, and his life is thrown into a tailspin. As he struggles to find a way forward, memories of his fathers' violent death, the weight of refugeehood, and an increasing sense of dread threaten everything he's worked so hard to achieve. Longing to escape the shadows in his mind and start anew, Michael decides to spontaneously pack up and go to America, the mythical "land of the free," where he imagines everything will be better, easier—a place where he can become someone new, someone without a past filled with pain. On this transformative journey, Michael travels

everywhere from New York City to San Francisco, partying with new friends, sparking fleeting romances, and splurging on big adventures, with the intention of living the life of his dreams until the money in his bank account runs out. Written in spellbinding prose, with Bola's trademark magnetic storytelling, *The Selfless Act of Breathing* takes us on a wild ride to odd but exciting places as Michael makes surprising new connections and faces old prejudices in new settings. The limits of fifteen-year-old Kambili's world are defined by the high walls of her family estate and the dictates of her fanatically religious father. Her life is regulated by schedules: prayer, sleep, study, prayer. Activities to be used in the classroom to accompany the reading of *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe. Activities to be used in the classroom to accompany the reading of *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe. *The Mistakes I Never Forget* is the story of the struggle of a young man, Gautam—who moves to Bangalore, the silicon city of India—in hunt of a lucrative job in a software company. He has completed his engineering degree, but struggles to speak English fluently. This makes his employers' think he is not qualified enough and refuse to give him a job. He shares space in a dingy one room apartment with three other young men, Lawrence, a nerd, Kamesh a hulk, and Madhan, who doubles up as their chef—all struggling for months to find software jobs and make ends meet. Even his roommates and friends ridicule him because of his language shortcoming. However, when a beautiful, talented young woman, Reshmi, falls in love with Gautam, his friends are amazed and question the why and how of this relationship. Reshmi works in the software industry, but dreams of being a choreographer. Will she fulfill her dream? Will Gautam get a job in a software company despite his stuttering English? The unthinkable happens when nuclear brinkmanship spirals off into to Armageddon. Billions die as governments disintegrate, great cities are annihilated and deeply laid plans to seize unlimited power swing into action. Tom McArthur: Once a carefree individualist, he was

coaxed into a position of influence and leadership by unexpected opportunity and kept there by his sense of honor. He finds himself far from home and family, separated by hundreds of miles of impossible terrain, gangs of armed bandits and a hostile government. Lynn, his wife: Beautiful and intelligent, strong willed and voluptuous, she resents Tom's abandonment of her and their children for a distant political career. Now, with nothing but her courage, wits and willpower to work with, she must fight to keep herself and her children alive. Lance: Young, handsome and lonely, trained as the ultimate warrior, he drove himself into poverty and alcohol with the memory of an unspeakable evil he was party to. Will he find love and redemption or destroy those around him? Who will live? Who will die? What will emerge when things fall apart?

Essay from the year 2021 in the subject Literature - Modern Literature, grade: 2,0, University of Tübingen, language: English, abstract: Chinua Achebe's novel "Things Fall Apart" is a work that in a certain way depicts contemporary developments: Published in 1958, Achebe describes events in the period of the early transition phase of British colonization of Nigeria – roughly, around 1900 – referring to Okonkwo, the protagonist, and the Igbo, a native ethnic group. Both are subject to fundamental changes, but to what extent can these changes be expressed in literary terms? Are there certain markers that can be used to identify tendencies, for example modernism? This investigation will be the subject of the following essay. This book celebrates Chinua Achebe, one of the most profound and famous African writers of our time, and his widely read masterpiece, Things Fall Apart. The novel remains a “must read” literary text for reasons the many contributors to this book make clear in their astute readings. Their perspectives offer thought provoking and critically insightful considerations for scholars of all ages, cultures and genders. Analysis of the writings of Chinua Achebe aimed at students of literature. Simon Gikandi has set out to reveal '...the very nature of [Achebe's] creativity, its prodigious



complexity and richness...its paradoxes and ambiguities. This is scholarship of real stature and supersedes all other studies of Achebe's writing. It comes at a good time. Achebe's literary reputation is equal to that of any living author and a substantial critical canon has been established. - G.D. Killam, Professor of English, University of Guelph Kenya: EAEP Narrated in a bold, fearless, unforgettable voice and set against the lush, panoramic backdrop of Hawaii, *The Descendants* is a stunning debut novel about an unconventional family forced to come together and re-create its own legacy—and the inspiration for the major motion picture starring George Clooney. Fortunes have changed for the King family, descendants of Hawaiian royalty and one of the state's largest landowners. Matthew King's daughters—Scottie, a feisty ten-year-old, and Alex, a seventeen-year-old recovering drug addict—are out of control, and their charismatic, thrill-seeking mother, Joanie, lies in a coma after a boat-racing accident. She will soon be taken off life support. As Matt gathers his wife's friends and family to say their final goodbyes, a difficult situation is made worse by the sudden discovery that there's one person who hasn't been told: the man with whom Joanie had been having an affair. Forced to examine what they owe not only to the living but to the dead, Matt, Scottie, and Alex take to the road to find Joanie's lover, on a memorable journey that leads to unforeseen humor, growth, and profound revelations. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from Kauai Hart Hemmings's *The Possibilities*. The simplicity of modern communication systems and the existence of internet has enabled exposure of works not imaginably exposable. Internet has made the world a small village. The Afrocentric reading of Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* and Charles Mungoshi's *Waiting for the Rain* is an in-depth analysis, critic and commentary of these authors' works. Chinua Achebe and Charles Mungoshi are the two most prominent Writers in African Literature, and a review of their works has been justified by the widespread readership of their works. This

is one reading that both a student and teacher must go through to have a fair view of Afrocentric reading of Africa Literary works. Okonkwo is the greatest wrestler and warrior alive, and his fame spreads throughout West Africa like a bush-fire in the harmattan. But when he accidentally kills a clansman, things begin to fall apart. Then Okonkwo returns from exile to find missionaries and colonial governors have arrived in the village. With his world thrown radically off-balance he can only hurtle towards tragedy. A classic in every sense, Chinua Achebe's stark, coolly ironic novel reshaped both Africa and world literature. "A true classic of world literature . . . A masterpiece that has inspired generations of writers in Nigeria, across Africa, and around the world." —Barack Obama "African literature is incomplete and unthinkable without the works of Chinua Achebe." —Toni Morrison Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's The Great American Read Things Fall Apart is the first of three novels in Chinua Achebe's critically acclaimed African Trilogy. It is a classic narrative about Africa's cataclysmic encounter with Europe as it establishes a colonial presence on the continent. Told through the fictional experiences of Okonkwo, a wealthy and fearless Igbo warrior of Umuofia in the late 1800s, Things Fall Apart explores one man's futile resistance to the devaluing of his Igbo traditions by British political and religious forces and his despair as his community capitulates to the powerful new order. With more than 20 million copies sold and translated into fifty-seven languages, Things Fall Apart provides one of the most illuminating and permanent monuments to African experience. Achebe does not only capture life in a pre-colonial African village, he conveys the tragedy of the loss of that world while broadening our understanding of our contemporary realities. Obi Okonkwo is an idealistic young man who, thanks to the privileges of an education in Britain, has now returned to Nigeria for a job in the civil service. However in his new role he finds that the way of government seems to be backhanders and corruption. Obi manages to resist the bribes

that are offered to him, but when he falls in love with an unsuitable girl - to the disapproval of his parents - he sinks further into emotional and financial turmoil. The lure of easy money becomes harder to refuse, and Obi becomes caught in a trap he cannot escape. Showing a man lost in cultural limbo, and a Nigeria entering a new age of disillusionment, *No Longer at Ease* concludes Achebe's remarkable trilogy charting three generations of an African community under the impact of colonialism, the first two volumes of which are *Things Fall Apart* and *Arrow of God*. Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* explores the clash between a small county hospital in California and a refugee family from Laos over the care of Lia Lee, a Hmong child diagnosed with severe epilepsy. Lia's parents and her doctors both wanted what was best for Lia, but the lack of understanding between them led to tragedy. Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Current Interest, and the Salon Book Award, Anne Fadiman's compassionate account of this cultural impasse is literary journalism at its finest. \_\_\_\_\_ Lia Lee 1982-2012 Lia Lee died on August 31, 2012. She was thirty years old and had been in a vegetative state since the age of four. Until the day of her death, her family cared for her lovingly at home. Describes a traditional Buddhist approach to suffering and how embracing the painful situation and using communication, negative habits, and challenging experiences leads to emotional growth and happiness. Early one morning in 2011, Hilary Neiman was hard at work in the offices of her own successful adoption and surrogacy practice, when three agents of the FBI entered without warning, read her Miranda rights, and informed her, "This is your Come to Jesus day." How does one go from being raised in a loving, ethical family and earning an advanced education, including in the law, to being accused in the headlines of joining a baby-selling, human trafficking ring? Eventually, Hilary would plead guilty, but not to baby-selling.

She would forfeit her license to practice law, and spend five months in the Atwood Minimum Security Camp in Lexington, Kentucky. *Things Fall Apart* is the story of a young woman with nothing but the promise of a fulfilled life ahead of her, whose childhood dream turned into a nightmare. Readers who love stories about friendship, school, and little monsters will love this clever and humorous picture book about a skeleton who is falling to pieces and needs help pulling himself together. Perfect for Halloween! Bonaparte is having a tough time. It's hard for this young skeleton to just hang loose when he can't keep hold of himself. When he plays catch, his throwing arm literally takes a flyer. Eating lunch can be a real jaw-dropping occasion. How can he start school when he has so many screws loose? Luckily, Bonaparte hit the bone-anza when it came to his friends. Franky Stein, Black Widow, and Mummicula all have some boneheaded ideas to help pull him together. But will it be enough to boost his confidence and get him ready for the first day of school? The original CliffsNotes study guides offer expert commentary on major themes, plots, characters, literary devices, and historical background. The latest generation of titles in this series also feature glossaries and visual elements that complement the classic, familiar format. In *CliffsNotes on Things Fall Apart*, you explore the ground-breaking work of author Chinua Achebe, considered by many to be the most influential African writer of his generation. The novel, amazing in its authenticity, leaves behind the stereotypical portrayals of African life and presents the Igbo culture of Nigeria in all its remarkable complexity. Chapter summaries and commentaries take you through Achebe's world, and critical essays give you insight into the novel's themes and use of language. Other features that help you study include Character analyses of the main characters A character map that graphically illustrates the relationships among the characters A section on the life and background of Chinua Achebe A review section that tests your knowledge A Resource Center full of books, articles, films, and

Internet sites Classic literature or modern modern-day treasure — you'll understand it all with expert information and insight from CliffsNotes study guides. Critical essays on Chinua Achebe's novel, *Things fall apart*. A textbook reader for young adults features Chinua Achebe's "Things Fall Apart," plus short stories, poems, and essays designed to build reading comprehension. Keek's life was totally perfect. Keek and her boyfriend just had their Worst Fight Ever, her best friend heinously betrayed her, her parents are divorcing, and her mom's across the country caring for her newborn cousin, who may or may not make it home from the hospital. To top it all off, Keek's got the plague. (Well, the chicken pox.) Now she's holed up at her grandmother's technologically-barren house until further notice. Not quite the summer vacation Keek had in mind. With only an old typewriter and Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar* for solace and guidance, Keek's alone with her swirling thoughts. But one thing's clear through her feverish haze—she's got to figure out why things went wrong so she can put them right. Offering an insight into African culture that had not been portrayed before, *Things Fall Apart* is both a tragic and moving story of an individual set in the wider context of the coming of colonialism, as well as a powerful and complex political statement of cross-cultural encounters. This guide to Chinua Achebe's compelling novel offers: an accessible introduction to the text and contexts of *Things Fall Apart* a critical history, surveying the many interpretations of the text from publication to the present a selection of critical writing on *Things Fall Apart*, by Abiola Irele, Abdul JanMohamed, Biodun Jeyifo, Florence Stratton and Ato Quayson, providing a variety of perspectives on the novel and extending the coverage of key critical approaches identified in the survey section cross-references between sections of the guide, in order to suggest links between texts, contexts and criticism suggestions for further reading. Part of the Routledge Guides to Literature series, this volume is essential reading for all those beginning detailed study of *Things Fall Apart*

and seeking not only a guide to the novel, but a way through the wealth of contextual and critical material that surrounds Achebe's text. Brilliant and engagingly written, *Why Nations Fail* answers the question that has stumped the experts for centuries: Why are some nations rich and others poor, divided by wealth and poverty, health and sickness, food and famine? Is it culture, the weather, geography? Perhaps ignorance of what the right policies are? Simply, no. None of these factors is either definitive or destiny. Otherwise, how to explain why Botswana has become one of the fastest growing countries in the world, while other African nations, such as Zimbabwe, the Congo, and Sierra Leone, are mired in poverty and violence? Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson conclusively show that it is man-made political and economic institutions that underlie economic success (or lack of it). Korea, to take just one of their fascinating examples, is a remarkably homogeneous nation, yet the people of North Korea are among the poorest on earth while their brothers and sisters in South Korea are among the richest. The south forged a society that created incentives, rewarded innovation, and allowed everyone to participate in economic opportunities. The economic success thus spurred was sustained because the government became accountable and responsive to citizens and the great mass of people. Sadly, the people of the north have endured decades of famine, political repression, and very different economic institutions—with no end in sight. The differences between the Koreas is due to the politics that created these completely different institutional trajectories. Based on fifteen years of original research Acemoglu and Robinson marshal extraordinary historical evidence from the Roman Empire, the Mayan city-states, medieval Venice, the Soviet Union, Latin America, England, Europe, the United States, and Africa to build a new theory of political economy with great relevance for the big questions of today, including: - China has built an authoritarian growth machine. Will it continue to grow at such high speed and

overwhelm the West? - Are America's best days behind it? Are we moving from a virtuous circle in which efforts by elites to aggrandize power are resisted to a vicious one that enriches and empowers a small minority? - What is the most effective way to help move billions of people from the rut of poverty to prosperity? More philanthropy from the wealthy nations of the West? Or learning the hard-won lessons of Acemoglu and Robinson's breakthrough ideas on the interplay between inclusive political and economic institutions? *Why Nations Fail* will change the way you look at—and understand—the world. Chinua Achebe is Africa's most prominent writer, the author of *Things Fall Apart*, the best known--and best selling--novel ever to come out of Africa. His fiction and poetry burn with a passionate commitment to political justice, bringing to life not only Africa's troubled encounters with Europe but also the dark side of contemporary African political life. Now, in *Home and Exile*, Achebe reveals the man behind his powerful work. Here is an extended exploration of the European impact on African culture, viewed through the most vivid experience available to the author--his own life. It is an extended snapshot of a major writer's childhood, illuminating his roots as an artist. Achebe discusses his English education and the relationship between colonial writers and the European literary tradition. He argues that if colonial writers try to imitate and, indeed, go one better than the Empire, they run the danger of undervaluing their homeland and their own people. Achebe contends that to redress the inequities of global oppression, writers must focus on where they come from, insisting that their value systems are as legitimate as any other. Stories are a real source of power in the world, he concludes, and to imitate the literature of another culture is to give that power away. *Home and Exile* is a moving account of an exceptional life. Achebe reveals the inner workings of the human conscience through the predicament of Africa and his own intellectual life. It is a story of the triumph of mind, told in the words of one of this century's

most gifted writers. Crazy Rich Asians meets One of Us is Lying in this electrifying YA thriller where students at an elite prep school are forced to confront their secrets when their ex-best friend turns up dead. Nancy Luo is shocked when her former best friend, Jamie Ruan, top-ranked junior at Sinclair Prep, goes missing, and then is found dead. Nancy is even more shocked when word starts to spread that she and her friends - Krystal, Akil, and Alexander - are the prime suspects, thanks to "the Proctor," someone anonymously incriminating them via the school's social media app. They all used to be Jamie's closest friends, and she knew each of their deepest, darkest secrets. Now, somehow the Proctor knows them, too. The four must uncover the true killer before The Proctor exposes more than they can bear and costs them more than they can afford, like Nancy's full scholarship. Soon, Nancy suspects that her friends may be keeping secrets from her, too. Katie Zhao's YA debut is an edge-of-your-seat drama set in the pressure-cooker world of academics and image at Sinclair Prep, where the past threatens the future these teens have carefully crafted for themselves. How We Fall Apart is the irresistible, addicting, Asian-American recast of Gossip Girl that we've all been waiting for. One of the most provocative and original voices in contemporary literature, Chinua Achebe here considers the place of literature and art in our society in a collection of essays spanning his best writing and lectures from the last twenty-three years. For Achebe, overcoming goes hand in hand with eradicating the destructive effects of racism and injustice in Western society. He reveals the impediments that still stand in the way of open, equal dialogue between Africans and Europeans, between blacks and whites, but also instills us with hope that they will soon be overcome. \*\* PRE-ORDER NIGHTS OF PLAGUE, THE NEW NOVEL FROM ORHAN PAMUK \*\* Winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature Winner of the International IMPAC Dublin Award 'Wonderful' The Spectator 'Magnificent' Observer 'Sumptuous' New Yorker 'Unforgettable' Guardian My Name is Red is an



unforgettable murder mystery, set amid the splendour of sixteenth century Istanbul, from the Nobel prizewinning author In the late 1590s, the Sultan secretly commissions a great book: a celebration of his life and his empire, to be illuminated by the best artists of the day - in the European manner. At a time of violent fundamentalism, however, this is a dangerous proposition. Even the illustrious circle of artists are not allowed to know for whom they are working. But when one of the miniaturists is murdered, their Master has to seek outside help. Did the dead painter fall victim to professional rivalry, romantic jealousy or religious terror? With the Sultan demanding an answer within three days, perhaps the clue lies somewhere in the half-finished pictures . . . Orhan Pamuk is one of the world's leading contemporary novelists and in *My Name is Red*, he fashioned an unforgettable tale of suspense, and an artful meditation on love and deception. A tender and refreshing tale of family life, clashing cultures and belonging in France. Critical essays discuss the language, symbolism, characters, and themes of the classic novel about British colonialism in Nigeria. An empathetic, moving account of what drives indigenous peasants to support armed struggle despite severe state repression, including lives lost, and homes and communities destroyed Over the past decade, the heavily forested, mineral-rich region of Bastar in central India has emerged as one of the most militarized sites in the country. The government calls the Maoist insurgency the “biggest security threat” to India. In 2005, a state-sponsored vigilante movement, the Salwa Judum, burned hundreds of villages, driving their inhabitants into state-controlled camps, drawing on counterinsurgency techniques developed in Malaysia, Vietnam and elsewhere. Apart from rapes and killings, hundreds of “surrendered” Maoist sympathizers were conscripted as auxiliaries. The conflict continues to this day, taking a toll on the lives of civilians, security forces and Maoist cadres. In 2007, Sundar and others took the Indian government to the Supreme Court over the human rights violations arising out of the conflict. In

a landmark judgment in 2011 the court banned state support for vigilantism. The Burning Forest describes this brutal war in the heart of India, and what it tells us about the courts, media and politics of the country. The result is a fascinating critical account of Indian democracy.

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