

Finders Keepers

Chapters 5 and 6

There is a change in point of view, and now we follow the story from Mandla's perspective. (point of view) It is told in the third person – Mandla is not narrating the chapter.

Theme

Different kinds of love

Page 37

While the other family members have been respectful around the chief, Mandla mainly ignores him. Here we see that Mandla loves his father but he does not respect him. We understand that they had a terrible argument about something. Here we see that sometimes familial love is complicated – we can love someone in our family, but we do not always like them.

Theme

Individuals and Communities

We see how the roles in the community are very important. Because he is the chief, Mandla's father automatically gets respect from everyone around him. For example, on page 37, it says "Everyone is always rushing to serve him, laughing at his jokes, frowning when he frowns." In other words, because of Chief Nkosi's position in the community, people are always eager to do things for him.

Chief Nkosi has a strong sense of duty and obligation. He feels his life is about his community. Mandla is the opposite of his father. He wants to be an individual. He is supposed to be the next chief, but he has no interest in leading his people.

STYLE AND STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS OF IMPORTANCE

Flashbacks

Why do authors use flashbacks?

Authors use flashbacks to show something that happened in the past. A flashback lets us see a past event or some other part of a character's history.

Flashbacks

On page 32 Lufuno describes how homesick she is for her grandmother's village. She imagines the river, the crocodiles and the antelope. She wants to escape the present, because it is a sad, anxious and difficult time for her. She wants to go back to the safety of her grandmother's arms again, and be a little girl once more.

Her memories are also linked with Dudu. This is platonic love. The two girls were very close. Lufuno misses having such a close friend who understands and loves her no matter what.

Why do you think Lufuno keeps thinking about the past?

She is homesick. She wants to escape the present, because it is a sad, anxious and difficult time for her. Moving to a new place, the bullying at school and the strike at the bread factory are making life difficult for her.

General

Refer to “I automatically reach...” on page 34 to “Where is he right now?” on page 35.

What evidence is there in this extract to prove that the following statement is true:

Lufuno trusts Dudu wholeheartedly.

- Lufuno told Dudu all about her lucky bracelet.
- She let Dudu hold the bracelet.
- She wants Dudu to meet Mandla so that she can give Lufuno her opinion of him.

Refer to “Lufuno. That is her name... between his fingers.” on page 37.

Identify the figure of speech.

- Simile

Explain how the figure of speech adds to the description of Lufuno’s name.

- * Mandla feels the smooth beads between his fingers and he feels that the name “Lufuno” sounds smooth too. The smoothness of the beads and the smoothness of the sound of the word “Lufuno” are being compared.