

Synopsis

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Water Sayings

Metrics:

20 chapters

185 trade-sized pages

About 42k words

Second of a planned series of five, the author believes it would be a suggested read for high school students and/or college students. Schools that use the inter-disciplinary approach have teachers select material that covers STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, Math) and/or SEL (Social Emotional Learning). It seems likely that a geometry teacher, for example, would suggest this entire series. The material is very current (2022), reaches into philosophy, politics, relationships, etc. The young adult or new adult readership can benefit from the didactic presentation.

Page 5 text reads: "...young adults...are taught that humans are smarter than monkeys. Frankly, my concern is that maybe we have actually *devolved*. The fundamental purpose of this book is to run my observations by young adults. Could I be right? Best to save the answer until after you read this volume."

The earlier book is a textbook (meaning it comes with a separate Instructors' Guide as a 36 page pamphlet). This volume requires no guide. Both volumes have ancillary support via the author's 'book club' wiki page. Volume I concerns an Ugandan girl, Alexa, portrayed as a first time camp counselor in her country. This volume resumes the story with Alexa's arrival in Montréal, Quebec. This volume does contain a summary of events depicted in the prior book meaning it is essentially independent.

The topical range is extensive. It mirrors Alexa's growth and maturation. Alexa achieves a philosophical milestone that pushes the target readers' envelope and expected ken. She is best described as a *keener* ('Canadianism' simply meaning cannot learn enough or soon enough).

Alexa, having arrived from Uganda and completed some formal college level education, becomes exposed to non formal education through exposure to different cultures and friends. The story picks up with a threesome trying to right a perceived wrong: the casual portrayal of indigenous peoples.

Understanding that the reader may have not been exposed to Volume I, a suitable summary as to Alexa's background includes recollection of earlier times when living in a village. Events not described in the prior text document her growth. One example is when she delivers a newborn child. At that very moment she seemed to think, '*now I am an adult*'. The story will prove that there is more to go though.

Trying to answer the fundamental question "what is sense eight?" started her quest and that continued in college. Sports opened her eyes. She became both stunned and somehow enamored with so-called 'American football'. The result being a never before described assessment of the unusual contest. Some would say 'insightful', others 'heretic'. The reader can decide.

Egged on by fellow students, she hosts a beer-hall assemblage to discuss her observations ranging from midwifery to football. The evening ends with unexpected trauma. An event that, without supporting friends, could have been far worse.

The event also conjures up both childhood trauma and, as a teenager, tender moments that she had shared with a very special friend, Yusuf. The story continues with a focus on the latter. He is also in the process of becoming an adult. He finds a single moment when he thinks 'this is it, I'm a man'. Like two parallel lines that could never intersect, there seems no way for the two to ever meet.

The 'Willpower, Locomotion' theme makes them both carry on. Alexa gathers a gang of eight friends and 'teaches' (i.e., presents more profound observations). Energized youth using her insights actually take concrete action (the group dubbed her 'Cachuchas', in a nod to Alexa's new heroine, Frida Kahlo).

Against the odds, eventually Alexa and Yusuf do connect but not before philosophical observations brought forth by Alexa as well as friends. The romantic element consists of the practical (courtship, setting boundaries, etc.), harrowing episodes, 'safe' sex and the two lovers becoming a 'promised' couple that will likely appear in the next volume. Author's book tour page (see QR code):

