

Activity 3**by R BEHARI - 28 Aug 2017 @ 8:14**

Activity 3 in your Study Guide asks you to explain the relationship between Sizwe and Thulani and compare it with the one between their fathers.

Using the Feedback from this activity as a guide, share your thoughts on this. Review the meaning of "Patriarchy", and think about how it applied to *Nervous Conditions*. How is the concept of patriarchy evident in *Seven Steps to Heaven*?

The part of the novel that deals with the childhood friendship between Thulani and Sizwe is called a **Bildungsroman**. It's a big German word with an easy meaning. It literally means, "novel of formation" or "novel of education". It means that we get to see the main character of a book develop his mind and character in the passage from childhood to adulthood through varied experiences - basically we see the main character grow up. The experiences usually involve an emotional or spiritual crisis which leads the character to question and recognise his or her own identity.

A famous example of a Bildungsroman is *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte, which I encourage all of you to read.

Activity 4**by R BEHARI - 28 Aug 2017 @ 8:14**

Please use this space to discuss Activity 4 from your study guide:

Issues of bias and discrimination against blacks and gays remain prominent and relevant. What are your thoughts in racial and sexual stereotyping in the novel.

What is your understanding of the word "bias", and the phrases, "racial stereotyping" and "sexual stereotyping"?

Activity 6**by R BEHARI - 28 Aug 2017 @ 8:15**

The mirror at the bar has a symbolic role in explaining the identities of Sizwe Dube and Thulani Tembe. Discuss the recurrence of the mirror whenever the protagonist contemplates his merits as a writer. How does it express his identity?

Use the feedback from this activity to help you formulate an answer.

Women in "Seven Steps to Heaven"by [R BEHARI](#) - 4 Sep 2017 @ 12:49

Read the statement below and answer the question that follows.

The women in *Seven Steps to Heaven* are largely presented as stereotypes and serve only to provide emotional support and sexual gratification to the male characters.

With reference to three female characters in the novel discuss the validity of the above assertion.

Research Essaysby [R BEHARI](#) - 4 Sep 2017 @ 12:54

Please watch this very helpful video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6yzZaWFlpE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgyvxvWRqAM>

E-RESERVES

Summary

This multilayered family saga is a riveting tale of love, betrayal, and a search for identity--sexual and otherwise. Sis Lettie, the streetwise philosopher of the shebeens and entrepreneur par excellence, and her son Kokoroshe, a street urchin turned lawyer, are at the center of this dark and understated novel.

Author Notes

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