1. Who are the main characters of the story. List and describe them in 1 sentence each.

Dr. Robert Kerans:is a professional biologist and is part of a scientific expedition tasked with studying the altered environment of a flooded and transformed world.,a rational and analytical thinker at the beginning and experiencing vivid dreams and desires related to the primeval landscape afterwards.

Dr. Bodkin: Dr. Bodkin is portrayed as an analytical and scientific thinker.approaching the environmental changes with a logical mindset, aiming to gather data and understand the alterations in the natural world.

Beatrice :a young woman who like other characters in the novel, Beatrice is drawn to the primal and chaotic nature of the flooded world,not want to leave the place.

Hardman:the senior pilot of the helicopter was the only other commissioned member of

the survey unit, serving as Riggs' deputy,and chief executive officer,who chooses to stay behind in the flooded world,succumbing to the temptations and psychological changes brought about by the transformed environment.

1. What happened to trigger environmental change in the story?

According to page 20.A significant increase in solar radiation has caused a substantial rise in global temperatures. The Earth is exposed to intense heat, and the polar ice have melted, resulting in a catastrophic rise in sea levels,making most of the cities melted.causing sea levels to inundate many coastal areas, including major cities like London. As a result, large portions of the world are submerged underwater.The Earth's climate has shifted to a tropical or subtropical climate. Regions that were once temperate or cold have become hot and humid, with lush vegetation and rampant growth of various flora and fauna,leading to the emergence of mutated and prehistoric-like species of plants and animals.Also ,the birth of the child become rarity,only one in ten marriage can yield the offspring.

1. What are the dangers if the main characters stay behind? Why are they tempted?

Danger：1:Environmental Hazards: The flooded world is filled with environmental hazards, including dangerous and mutated wildlife. Prehistoric creatures like giant iguanas and insects pose a constant threat to humans. These creatures are unpredictable and can attack at any moment.2:Psychological Changes: The flooded world has a profound psychological impact on the characters. They experience vivid dreams and desires related to the primeval landscape, and they struggle to maintain their sanity and a connection to their past lives.3:The heat:As long as they run out of the energy, they will suffer the heat and may have dangers.(page 24,25)

Reasons:

The world outside the flooded cities is deteriorating, with civilization collapsing. Staying behind offers an escape from the disintegrating society and a return to a more basic, elemental existence.(20)And the characters undergo psychological shifts and transformations due to the environment. They become increasingly disconnected from their past lives and the constraints of civilization, making it difficult for them to leave.

Actually, they makes me think of Gilgamesh,who also wants to explore the eternity life despite of the severe and desperate difficulties.The similarities of them are that they also wants to persuits their belief despite the difficulties.

1. What happens to Hardman?

As the story progresses, Hardman's mental state deteriorates,which is a result of the alluring and primitive aspects of the submerged landscape. He becomes increasingly drawn to the environment, particularly the idea of embracing the chaos and returning to a more primal state of existence. Ultimately, he chooses to stay behind in the flooded world,succumbing to the temptations and psychological changes brought about by the transformed environment.