Dessa Shapiro

Period 5

Book Notes for Nectar in a Sieve

| **Pg #** | **vocab/ comments or quotations** | **Chunk summary and predictions** |
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|  | Chapter 1 | A wealthy village girl, the youngest in the family, gets married to a poor farmer due to her chief father losing power and not having money for a dowry. She is scared and hesitant at first but learns to appreciate her life and new husband.  Saying that sometimes simplicity is better and it makes her feel as if she has a place in the world/ she belongs. Although she is still a child |
| 7 | foibles | A married woman with a disabled child, reflecting on her children   * Will reflect on her life |
| 7, 8, 9 | Saris, bullocks  Married at 12, marriage is a negotiation and their society depends much on profit/money | She was the youngest child and looking forward to beautiful wedding but her fathers power as a chief has diminished so she married a poor farmer, and joined with him home, he seemed kind   * Will learn to adjust to a hard life |
| 10 |  | They arrive at home and it is a small, humble hut, she is distraught, but he reassured her |
| 10, 11 | She seems to be watching her past self- perspective  They are defined by their husbands  “”- line 1-5 pg 11 | She is washing in a river and meets her neighbors who are much like her-   * She may go onto meet more people/make friends |
| 12 | Zemindari | She talks to neighbors and learns her husband built their home for her, he seems shy/ embarrassed about it   * She starts to love/respect him more |
| 12, 13, 14 | “What more can a girl want” end of 12  Married behneth herself = she is glad, always felt pain and now just feels like she belongs | She starts to adjust to her life on a farm, in town and meets Kunthi a quiet girl much like her and finds herself grateful   * Has her first child/ has trouble with kids |
| 14 | “” line 5-6 pg 14   * Planting the seeds holds some importance   “Not from our land” - Nathen | She adjusts more to life and find herself planting a pumpkin and participating in the marriage, feels like she's doing something/ has a purpose   * Sharts a new chapter in her life/ time skip |
|  | Chapter 2 | She is pregnant and still adjusting to her new life. She is a little more mature now and shows admiration from her husband. She finds a love for writing during her pregnancy, she is becoming more independent. She gives birth to her first child (a girl)   * She is used to her husband now although some of his actions seem a little strange, but overall they have a healthy marriage. She holds some deep resentment towards herself and does not value herself much |
| 15, 16 | Maybe this shows a toxic underlying jealousy from him | Kunthi gives birth and asks MC to leave, but she does not, we find out she is pregnant, the husband is angry with her for staying out so long, but she justifies it   * Stars focusing on her baby |
| 16, 17 | Very misogynistic society woman's worth is based on marriage and children  She is starting to feel a connection to nathan, they get along/ love each other tentatively - from his humble means  “” end quote of page 16-17 | She starts to take it easy for him and starts writing again, reflects on learning to write but some of the women scorn her, saying her only purpose should be kids, and she defends herself. Nathen does not resent her although he can't write   * She will continue her writing, maybe find a passion for it |
| 17, 18, 19 | The snake could be an analogy for something or foreshadowing for something that is going to happen  “” 3rd paragraph line 1-3 | She is tending to a garden when she finds a cobra, is terrified and runs screaming away, Nathen help get rid of it and they seem to be a normal couple   * She will have her baby |
| 19, 20 | That snake could represent deadly things becoming deadlier or PTSD or some sort.  What is concealed where no one can see- related to their society  The role of women in their society  “- paragraph 2 last line, pg 20 | She has a baby girl and is embarrassed/disappointed it is not a boy. She is in the garden and has hallucinations of the snake, and is soothed by her friend Kali. that speaks of the snake a little more   * She will raise her child/ find love or hatred towards the girl |
| 20, 21 | Daughter being beautiful could represent their marriage/ or finding beauty in simplicity which she had found | Named their daughter Irrawaddy- great river, Nathen wanted a son, she was beautiful, eventually, he paid attention to her. She was a happy independent child. They continue going about their daily life   * They will run into some personal issues or issues with food |
|  | Chapter 3 | She has some trouble having more children(a son) for a long time but when she goes to see her sick mother she meets Jimmy, a foreigner doctor who helps her have more children, her mom dies and she has 5 sons, and is starting to have money troubles. |
| 22, 23 | Foreigner may represent something happening politically or a ship in MC's perspective  Consumption | It has been some time and everyone worries that they will not have another child/ a son. MC hopes and prays. Her mother got sick and she meets a foreign doctor who is treating her mother.   * She will get to know to doctor/ build some relationship with him |
| 23, 24 | “” convo at end of page 23  He seems to want to help her although I can’t guess why  “You are an ignorant fool” “ I will not harm you”  He is definitely a dichotomy | She spoke with him, and he was very interesting, blunt, and forthright. Her mother died, she thanks him and confronts her about her sorrow of not having a son. She is embarrassed to tell him but he offers to help her and she accepts   * She will go to see him and it will help her/ she will deepen their relationship |
| 24, 25, 26 | Pandal  “I have not lied to him, there has just been this silence” 26  Something about her relationship with Kenny feels private… | She had more children 7 years after the first, her friends met with her less and less, people were overjoyed she had a son, she wanted to thank Kenny for helping her, but did not tell her husband about him   * She will meet Kenny again soon |
| 26, 27 | She is starting to see the hardships of life and experience the consequences of her wishes in a way | She has 4 more sons and she now has 6 children. She has to deal with her oldest growing up and has difficulty keeping food on the table, although they do not grow hungry |
| 27-28 | Her life is shifting from being altruistic to being more self-focused, showing a change in priorities.  Has a trend of feeling guilty | She decided to sell more to the money man instead of the old woman to make more money, but she tries her best to feed the old woman as we do. The child is to be married soon. |
|  | Chapter 4 | There is change coming, forenge people have intruded in the village, came and built homes, she is unhappy with the change and afraid of what will become of her and her children.  I think this definite;y shows a shift and change in the stories direction |
| 29-30 | “”- first few lines pg 29  The chapter begins with change showing that things you think you have can be taken away without you even knowing. | She reminisces about her father, hundreds of men show up in the village and seem to be working/building something. The men are from far away and a foreigner like Kenny is leading them/ ordering the villagers around. |
| 31 | Not I. They had invaded our village with clatter and din, had taken from out **maidan** where our children player  She sees the invasion happening | Some people are unhappy that an outsider is ordering them around, but most people have better things to do. For weeks they built and made a separate prospering community, then they left and the villagers were fascinated with the building. |
| 32 | Acceptance vs denial | She does not want to accept change. And doesn't want them to come back, Nathen tells her to be more flexible and that they have no choice but to exist among them. She says they are taking their home, lives, and money |
| 33 | Something will happen with her daughter/ perhaps get married to a foreigner. | they/ colonizers come back and integrate into their village across the river, MC does not like that change, misses the simplicity of nature, and has to start thinking of what to do with her daughter. |
|  | Chapter 5 | She is able to meet Kenny again and thank him, he finds a place among them even though they know little about him.  Kenny seems like he will be an integral part in the story and will come to save or destroy them. |
| 35-36 | Zemindar | She mentions some people stealing from her yard. She is going about her chores and meets Kenny again, she invites him in and gives him some food |
| 37-38 | He may work for the people of the tannery/ split loyalties/ he is a representation of mixing culture | Kenny comes around every so often and becomes a part of their family in a way, he seems kind but is still mysterious. |
|  | Chapter 6 | Ira gets married and leaves the family, leaving her mother feeling lost in a sense.  In this chapter MC is able to empathize with her daughter and look at her differently then when she got married. She seems young to her. This might indicate a shift in their life now that their daughter is gone, and hardships to come. |
| 39-40 | She pities her- interesting  “But before joy must come the stress of parting pg 40”  Sees herself in her daughter  normal | Her daughter is finally getting married at 14 and they spend a long time trying to find the right match. During the wedding, she more the loss of her young daughter |
| 41-42 | palanquin | Ira got married in a joyous ceremony and is now gone |
|  | Chapter 7 | After Ira is married off there is a huge rain that floods much of the village and stones that leave many homes destroyed, their farm has been flooded and they are scars for food. They still hold hope to continue their normal lives.  The storm could be showing a metaphorical contradiction between the damages of civilization and nature, how they can both destroy a community but one can not be so easily fixed after destruction hits. |
| 43-44 |  |  |
| 45-46 | Pg 46 p 4 line 5-8 |  |
| 47 | Pg 47 bottom |  |
| 48-49 | Pg 49 bottom |  |
|  | Chapter 8 | The Tranny people are causing the village to grow and more of the local village people are being pushed out if they are unwilling to integrate but MC still doesn't want them to takeover  Her reluctance will most likely lead their family to misfortune and she will have to choose to either rebel or submit. |
| 50-51 |  |  |
| 52 |  |  |
|  | Chapter 9 | Ira returns home because she did not have children. Her two sons have decided to work in the tannery despite her protests, to help feed the family. Their family finally has enough to eat and they buy clothes for themselves |
| Pg 55 | Middle convo pg 55 |  |
| Pg 56 | Pg 56 “indeed they have”= white men |  |
|  | Chapter 10 | Shows how despite how adverse she was to her kids working the tannery she can enjoy the festivals and that her life can be bright and happy is she let herself free from her mind/societal restrictions |
| Pg 58-59 |  | There is a festival, the overall vibe seems lively and MC discontent with her current life- forgetting about her friends |
| Pg 60-61 | Pg 61 - and you are best of all | The festival continues and Nathen is uncharacteristically joyous. She is kind of a stick in the mud. |
|  | Chapter 11 | She has another child and Ira basically takes ownership, Ira has been very depressed could lead to something devastating happening with her children, she finally accept the Tannery and has been acclimated in a scene |
| Pg 62-63 |  | She goes to ask Kenny about ira and he agrees to help- still judgemental about her general attitude |
| Pg 64-65 |  | When going home she runs into Kunthi, get in a small fight for her because she accused her of cheating ( Kunti is a prostitute/cheating) MC has another baby and Ira who was depressed loves the baby. MC is worried about Ira |
| Pg 66 | Pg 66 - I found myself rebellious, protesting… | She meets the old woman and says she is no longer hateful toward the tannery and has adjusted, but at night still protests. |
|  | Chapter 12 | Summary: Her Two sons working at the Tannery decide to protest the unfair treatment of the work and quit their jobs to rebel. This causes them to become poor and helpless. Her third son leaves to find work and she mourns the loss as well as the chaos of her life. |
| 67-68 | “” top of pg 68   * Greed starts playing a role * Starting to see the injustice/ how they are taken advantage of | Summary  Her sons continue to work at the tannery and they are making comfortable money, there was some trouble because they wanted to get paid more |
| 69-70 | “” top of 69  Bottom of 69  They are seeing their choice and rebellion against this abuse | Summary  Her sons decide to protest against the tannery and they have become inspired to make a change, her friend blames them for starting this and their family is now in a difficult position |
| 71-72 |  | Summary  Their third son decides to take work far away and leaves |
| 73-75 | “” bottom of pg 74  Bottom of pg 75 | Summary  She is comforted by her husband about their son leaving and has a conversation with Kenny. |
|  | Chapter 13 | Due to the drought they struggle to survive, their crops die and they suffer barely having enough to keep their home. |
| 76-77 | Pg 76 middle- nature/language | There is no rain and their landlord threatens to take away their land and home if they cannot pay. |
| 78-79 |  | They decide to sell some of their clothes and nicer possessions in order to help keep the ground and she negotiates with the money man and wins. They are desperate |
| 80-82 | Pg 82 bottom | They manage to keep their land, but barely. The drought continues and they have to beg for money, rain finally comes but too late. |
|  | Chapter 14 | Rain comes but they must wait for the crops to grow, they have very little food left and it ends up being taken from them, so they start to starve. |
| 83-84 | Bottom og pg 84 | Rain finally came but much of their crops had died and they had to sell everything they grew/ leaving little for themselves. They are hungry and scared for the future |
| 85-86 | Bottom of pg 86 | She becomes a bit paranoid about her remaining food and Kunthi comes to her having lost everything |
| 87-88 | 1p og pg 88 | Kuntho threatens to tell her husband she has been unfaithful if she does not give her their food and MC is rightfully pissed. When she goes to her secret supply everything is gone. Someone has taken it |
| 89-90 | Bottom quarter of pg 89 so much the better  Bottom of 90 | She panics and accuses her family of taking the rice She finds out her husband is the one who took the rice to give it to Kunthi because he is the father of her sons and had slept with her long ago |
| 91-92 | Pg 91- about hunger | The rice was gone and they had to scrounge for food, finding anything they could, they all became ill and suffered greatly, especially the youngest. |
|  | Chapter 15 | His son died while supposedly trying to steal from the tannery and was killed relatively easily due to his malnutrition and general health. The tannery people checked on her to make sure she did not ask for money. She seems to mourn in a strange way, maybe showing how disconnected from her emotions she is. But she still mornes |
| 93-94 | Bottom pg 93 | She gets the news that her son has died being hit. |
| 95-96 | Bottom of 96 | She is confused by how life could be valued with money |
|  | Chapter 16 | They are happy that food may come soon, but find out Ira has been prostituting herself to earn money to save their starving child. But it was too late, and he passed away. This chapter shows the reality of loss and sometimes time does not work in our favor. It also shows MC’s temper and what she is capable of and her paranoia. |
| 97-98 | Top half of 98 imprisoned in the brain | They are working to harvest that will be ready in 3 weeks but fear for the young boy |
| 99-100 | Bottom of 99 | At night she hears a noise, thinks its Kunthi and beats her daughter, possibly killing her |
| 101-102 |  | Her daughter lives although cut up due to wearing a prostitutes jewelry. But ira only worries for the child |
| 103-105 | Top of 104  Middle of 105  Bottom 105 | They find out ira is prostituting herself to feed the child, MC accepts this but Nathen does not. Their youngest son passes away despite feeling better due to the food. |
|  | Chapter 17 | They have food now—- yay —- still pathetic and seem to have forgotten their losses (at least temporarily) |
| 106-107 | Bottom 106 - true joy can only come from sorrow | They have food now—- yay —- still pathetic and seem to have forgotten their losses (at least temporarily) |
|  | Chapter 18 | WIth the fornine their life goes towards normal, she meets Kenny and they discuss their lives, he has very interesting views and is experiencing loss. Ira is pregnant and MC fears for their families reputation. |
| 108-109 |  | She goes to the market, Kenny is back and someone accuses her of sleeping with him/ whoring herself out to him. She is rightfully angry and goes to visit Kenny bringing gifts. |
| 110-112 | Mid 111 - misogyny  Recognizing their base differences  Bottom 112 | She speaks with Kenny and discusses their cultural differences. It turns out he helped and Ira is pregnant, but it has shamed their family. |
|  | Chapter 19 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | Chapter 21 | The Hospital has begun to get build but progress is slow, the old women has died and Her son has started his training |
|  | Mid 125  Mid 127 |  |
|  | Chapter 22 | Iras’ child grows and is ostracized by the children and the people of the town, he starts to question his mother and is absorbing what he hears around him. |
|  |  |  |
|  | Chapter 23 | They must leave their home because the tannery bought their land. They must leave all their children to travel to stay with their son |
| 131-132 | Mid 132 | Her third son got married and Nathen has begun to struggle with his health as he is 50. Kenny says he needs to eat more but they are unable to provide that. She realizes that she really has no one but her husband |
| 133-134 | Can show how little fallback they have- just as Kenny was explaining previously | She and Kenny talk about options and he can see the difference in their lifestyles. How many are forced to accept whatever happens? The tannery people bought their land and they must leave |
| 135-136 | Bottom 135- top of 136- tannery  Different things mean different outcomes for people. Everything can cause joy and suffering | They start to worry and panic not knowing where to go. But she reflects on how uncertain the land was, and how they could never truly own it |
| 137-138 | Bottom para 1 page 137  Together there was more strength “there was also more suffering” 138 | They think they will travel to stay with their son who lives far away. But are unsure of what options they have |
| 139 |  | Ira decides to stay, and live with her brother and her child. Leaving the parents on their own |
|  | Chapter 24 | The johnny is rough and they end up getting lost and having their belongings stolen |
| 141-142 |  | They gather their belongings and leave their home, feeling loss |
| 143-144 |  | After a long journey they arrive and realize the path to their son's house is fifteen miles. The struggle with the walk |
| 145-146 |  | They get tired and decide to rest, making bad times and disappointing. At night they go to stay in a church |
| 147-148 |  | They pray and they go to get free food for the poor. People get aggressive and she gets past her husband in line |
| 149-150 |  | They get food but she could not get any for her husband |
| 151-152 |  | Their belongings were stolen because they had been unintended |
|  | Chapter 25 | When they arrive at his workplace the doctor is kind and tells them he has moved elsewhere. |
| 153-154 |  | They go to buy food but their money was stolen in the night |
| 155-156 | Bottom 155 | They see children who have learned to survive and they lead them to their son |
| 157-158 |  | They arrive at the address given but he had left to work elsewhere |
| 159-160 |  | They have a meal from the doctor |
|  | Chapter 26 |  |
| 161-162 | Bottom 161 | They arrive at his workplace and meet his wfe a their grandchild to find their son left his wife two years ago. |
| 163-164 | Top 163 & 164 | They stay with her kids while she works and they relize that there are no grandchildre, they must leave. |
| 165-166 | Bottom 166 | They decide to leave because the wife cannot support them |
|  | Chapter 27 |  |
| 167-168 | Top of 168  Mid 168 | They return to the temple, miss home and she decides to profit off her writing skills |
| 169-170 |  | She tries to sell but struggles, a new year begins and Nathen is sick. The little boy lion comes looking for payment |
| 171-172 | Mid 171 | She pitties the boy and he leads them to a stone quarry to earn money |
| 173-174 | Mid 174 | They work to break stones and it is dangerous |
| 175-176 |  | The continue working at the quary =. Having hope to get home |
| 177-178 | Bottom 178 | They talk with the boy and feel lost about how they will survive of where they want to die |
|  | Chapter 28 |  |
| 179-180 |  | They continue to work and are earning good money. They even splurge a little and buy still |
| 181-182 | Bottom 181 | She buys a toy for the boy, him reminder her of ira and her child. Nathen is getting worse |
| 183-185 | Bottom 183  Bottom 185 | She goes about life in the rain, nathen dies, she is crying |
|  | Chapter 29 | He dies, she is sad and fears for herself in his absence |
| 186-187 | Mid 187 |  |
|  | Chapter 30 | She returns to the village with Puli the child. |
| 188-189 |  |  |