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The Joys of Motherhood

[Penguin UK](#) 'A scorching portrayal of a woman's life . . . the female, feminist counterpart to *Things Fall Apart*' Bernardine Evaristo 'God, when will you create a woman who will be fulfilled in herself, a full human being, not anybody's appendage? ... when will I be free?' **There is no greater honour for a woman in an Ibo village than to have children - especially sons. Unable to conceive in her first marriage, Nnu Ego is sent away to a new husband in the city of Lagos, where she finally succeeds in becoming a mother. But things are changing, and a war that unfolds thousands of miles away threatens her family's fortunes and her entire way of life. In a world where motherhood is everything, what will be left for her at the end of it all? 'Sparkling intelligence and a certain kind of honest, lived, intimate insight into working-class colonial Nigeria'** Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

The Joys of Motherhood

A Novel

[Brazilier Books](#) **The story is set primarily in Lagos, Nigeria, between the 1930s and 1960s. Nnu Ego, a hard-working, optimistic Ibo woman, remains fiercely determined to save her children from the devastation of war, the erosion of village life, and the breakdown of tradition.**

The Joys of Motherhood

Buchi Emecheta ; Introduction by Elleke Boehmer

Emecheta, Buchi: The Joys of Motherhood

Features information about the novel "The Joys of Motherhood," written by Nigerian-born British novelist Buchi Emecheta (1944-), provided by New York University. Contains a summary and a commentary about the book. Notes the genre, publisher, and edition.

A Study Guide for Buchi Emecheta's "The Joys of Motherhood"

[Gale Cengage Learning](#) **A Study Guide for Buchi Emecheta's "The Joys of Motherhood," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Novels for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Novels for Students for all of your research needs.**

Contradicting Maternity

HIV-positive Motherhood in South Africa

"Drawing on rich and poignant interviews with mothers who have been diagnosed HIV-positive, "Contradicting Maternity" provides a rare perspective of motherhood from the mother's point of view. Whereas motherhood is often assumed to be a secondary identity compared to the central figure of the child, this book reverses the focus, arguing that maternal experience is important in its own right. The book explores the situation in which two very powerful identities, those of motherhood and of being HIV-positive, collide in the same moment. This collision takes place at the interface of complex, and often split, social and personal meanings concerning the sanctity of motherhood and the anxieties of HIV. The book offers an interpretation of how these personal and social meanings resonate with, and also fail to encompass, the experiences surrounding HIV-positive mothers. Photographs, academic literature and the accounts of real women are read with both a psychodynamic and discursive eye, highlighting the contradictions within maternal experience, as well as between maternal experience and the social imagination. "Contradicting Maternity" will appeal to scholars, students and practitioners in psychology, the social sciences and the health professions. The sensitive and readable analysis will also be of interest to mothers, whether HIV-positive or not"--Publisher's website.

The Slave Girl

[Heinemann Educational Publishers](#) **Annotation "Her graphically detailed pictures of tribal life make the novel memorable."-Chicago Tribune.**

In the Ditch

Efuru

[Waveland Press](#) Appearing in 1966, Efuru was the first internationally published book, in English, by a Nigerian woman. Flora Nwapa (1931-1993) sets her story in a small village in colonial West Africa as she describes the youth, marriage, motherhood, and eventual personal epiphany of a young woman in rural Nigeria. The respected and beautiful protagonist, an independent-minded Ibo woman named Efuru, wishes to be a mother. Her eventual tragedy is that she is not able to marry or raise children successfully. Alone and childless, Efuru realizes she surely must have a higher calling and goes to the lake goddess of her tribe, Uhamiri, to discover the path she must follow. The work, a rich exploration of Nigerian village life and values, offers a realistic picture of gender issues in a patriarchal society as well as the struggles of a nation exploited by colonialism.

The Bride Price

[Heinemann International Incorporated](#) A novel by a Nigerian-born author which explores the constraints of a tradition under which women are defined in purely monetary terms. When Aku-nna and her family are inherited by her uncle, who values her only for the high bride-price she is expected to fetch, she defies convention and society.

Joys of Motherhood

Second-Class Citizen

[Penguin UK](#) 'Fresh, timeless ... a lively work of art' Observer 'Buchi Emecheta was the foremother of black British women's writing . . . powerful fictions written from and about our lives' Bernardine Evaristo 'Most dreams, as all dreamers know quite well, do have setbacks. Adah's dream was no exception, for hers had many' They nicknamed Adah 'the Igbo tigress' at school in Nigeria, she was so fearless. Now she has moved to London to join her husband, and is determined to succeed. But her welcome from 1960's England - and the man she married - is a cold one. Providing for her growing family, struggling to survive and negotiating everyday injustices along the way, Adah still resolves that she will never give up her dream of becoming a writer. 'Bold, brave, defiant ... its exploration of blackness, the white gaze, and the development of the main character Adah's sense of self is extremely powerful' Gal-dem

Double Yoke

So Long a Letter

[Heinemann](#) An intense and poised novel in the form of a letter written by Ramatoulaye, who has recently been widowed.

A Kind of Marriage

[MacMillan Education, Limited](#)

Adah's Story

A Novel

Kehinde

[Waveland PressInc](#) After living in London for several years with a prestigious banking job, Kehinde agrees to return to her native Nigeria with her husband and children, but must decide whether or not to stay when her husband takes a new wife and wants her to be the subservient wife.

The New Tribe

[Heinemann](#) From best-selling author Holly Webb comes a brand new series full of mystery and intrigue following the adventures of a very determined heroine and her dog! Holly Webb fans will be thrilled to pieces to discover the adventures of Maisie Hitchins, the pluckiest little detective in Victorian London. Maisie Hitchins lives in her grandmother's boarding house, longing for adventure. She idolizes the famous detective, Gilbert Carrington, and follows his every case. But Maisie is about to be given the opportunity of a lifetime: her own mystery to solve! In the first book in this fantastic new series, Maisie rescues a puppy in peril whilst running an errand, and adopts him. She decides to investigate the puppy's original cruel owner, but instead gets tangled up in an intriguing plot involving stolen sausages, pilfered halfpennies and a fast-paced bicycle chase. The streets of Victorian London are never safe, but Maisie's on the case!

Postcolonial African Writers

A Bio-bibliographical Critical Sourcebook

[Routledge](#) This reference book surveys the richness of postcolonial African literature. The volume begins with an introductory essay on postcolonial criticism and African writing, then presents alphabetically arranged profiles of some 60 writers, including Chinua Achebe, Nadine Gordimer, Bessie Head, Doris Lessing, Tsitsi Dangarembga, Tahar Ben Jelloun, among others. Each entry includes a brief biography, a discussion of major works and themes that appear in the author's writings, an overview of the critical response to the author's work, and a bibliography of primary and secondary sources. These profiles are written by expert contributors and reflect many different perspectives. The volume concludes with a selected general bibliography of the most important critical works on postcolonial African literature.

The Changing Concept of Marriage in Buchi Emecheta's The Joys of Motherhood and Mariama Bâ's So Long a Letter

Helen of Troy

A Novel

[Pan Macmillan](#) Bestselling novelist, Margaret George, here imagines the story of Helen of Sparta and Troy, one of the most amazing female mythical characters, ancient or modern. A war, which lasted for 10 years, was fought over her and nearly all the stories of the heroic age were bound into her story - a measure of her capacity to galvanise men into action. Using her unique gift for research and recreation, Margaret George brings to life a Helen who was a tantalizing enigma from the very first, flesh and blood certainly, but also immortal, as the daughter of Zeus. Her beauty is so overwhelming and dangerous that, as a child, she is protected from seeing her reflection. Kings and princes compete for her hand in marriage, and she marries Menelaus of Sparta, but before marrying him all her other suitors swear to help bring Helen back should she ever be abducted again. When she falls for Paris of Troy it is assumed that he has taken her by force, when her actions are far more complex. The suitors are obliged to honour their oath and so the Trojan War begins - the most pivotal event in the history of ancient Greece . . . and the tragedy of these individuals. 'An epic novel... Margaret George recreates... passions... with extraordinary intensity. If only history lessons had been like this' *Cosmopolitan*

Mothering

Ideology, Experience, and Agency

[Routledge](#) First published in 1994. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

Buchi Emecheta: The Joys of Motherhood (1979).

Features a study guide for the 1979 novel "The Joys of Motherhood," written by Nigerian-born British novelist Buchi Emecheta (1944-). Contains a brief profile of Emecheta and commentary for each chapter of the book. The study guide is provided by Paul Brians.

African Novels in the Classroom

[Lynne Rienner Publishers](#) Many teachers of African studies have found novels to be effective assignments in courses. In this guide, teachers describe their favourite African novels - drawn from all over the continent - and share their experiences of using them in the classroom.

Meridian

[Hachette UK](#) The second novel written by Alice Walker, preceding THE COLOUR PURPLE is a heartfelt and moving story about one woman's personal revolution as she joins the Civil Rights Movement. Set in the American South in the 1960s it follows Meridian Hill, a courageous young woman who dedicates herself heart and soul to her civil rights work, touching the lives of those around her even as her own health begins to deteriorate. Hers is a lonely battle, but it is one she will not abandon, whatever the costs. This is classic Alice Walker, beautifully written, intense and passionate.

Buchi Emecheta

'Kehinde', 'Head Above Water', 'Joys of Motherhood'

Reading Buchi Emecheta: Cross-Cultural Conversations

Cross-Cultural Conversations

[ABC-CLIO](#) In this first full-length study of Emecheta's fiction, Fishburn highlights the difficulties inherent in reading across cultures. She challenges the notion that all we need to understand African texts is a willingness to be open to them, arguing that too many of the cultural and critical preconceptions we bring to these texts interfere with our ability to understand them. Directly responding to Western feminist criticism written about Emecheta, this study argues that Emecheta herself is not a feminist in the Western sense and that her novels should not be construed as reflecting this political interest. In close readings of eight of her best known works, this study reveals a complex narrative voice which is far more supportive of Emecheta's own African culture and its tradition than has been recognized previously.

Feminist Perspectives in Buchi Emecheta's The Joys of Motherhood

MATERNIDAD E IDENTIDAD AFROAMERICANA

CONTENIDO: Tradicionalmente, la maternidad ha sido asociada al cuerpo y a la identidad femenina; de hecho, una condición para ser considerada mujer. Como consecuencia, la maternidad se ha convertido en uno de los caballos de batalla del feminismo contemporáneo. Además, la visión de la maternidad desde el punto de vista de la mujer de color no ha sido tomada en consideración hasta muy recientemente relegándose a estereotipos denigrantes. Por ello, la presente publicación se centra en la reconsideración de dicha maternidad, a través de dos obras fundamentales: *The Joys of Motherhood* de Buchi Emecheta y *Blessings* de Sheneska Jackson. En estas obras comprobaremos que la maternidad es clave para la definición de la identidad de la mujer tanto en África como en la diáspora africana en Estados Unidos y que la comunidad de mujeres, la solidaridad entre ellas, es esencial para el desarrollo de este rol ofreciendo, consecuentemente, un retrato de gran pluralidad y riqueza de "maternidades". AUTORA: María Hierro Gutiérrez es una joven investigadora de la Universidad de Huelva, que cuenta actualmente con una beca de Formación de Personal Docente e Investigador. Ha participado en congresos de ámbito nacional e internacional y realizado estancias de investigación en universidades europeas y norteamericanas. Su investigación se centra en la producción narrativa de mujeres pertenecientes a la diáspora africana y hoy en día se encuentra inmersa en la elaboración de su tesis doctoral.

Gwendolen

Heinemann Educational Publishers A tale of lost innocence and betrayal of trust.

NOVELS FOR STUDENTS

A Study Guide for Buchi Emecheta's "the Joys of Motherhood."

A Limited Woman

Character in Question in Buchi Emecheta's Novel The Joys of Motherhood

Colonialism and Cultural Identity

Crises of Tradition in the Anglophone Literatures of India, Africa, and the Caribbean

SUNY Press Explores diverse cultural identities, both theoretically and through concrete, specific interpretations of selected major texts from former British colonies.

Crossing the Sacred Line

Analyzing Reader Responses to Buchi Emecheta's The Joys of Motherhood (1979)

Gender in African Women's Writing

Identity, Sexuality, and Difference

Indiana University Press "This is a cogent analysis of the complexities of gender in the work of nine contemporary Anglophone and Francophone novelists.... offers illuminating interpretations of worthy writers... " —Multicultural Review "This book reaffirms Bessie Head's remark that books are a tool, in this case a tool that allows readers to understand better the rich lives and the condition of African women. Excellent notes and a rich bibliography." —Choice "... a college-level analysis which will appeal to any interested in African studies and literature." —The Bookwatch This book applies gender as a category of analysis to the works of nine sub-Saharan women writers: Aidoo, Bá, Beyala, Dangarembga, Emecheta, Head, Liking, Tlali, and Zanga Tsogo. The author appropriates western feminist theories of gender in an African literary context, and in the process, she finds and names critical theory that is African, indigenous, self-determining, which she then melds with western feminist theory and comes out with an over-arching theory that enriches western, post-colonial and African critical perspectives.

Head Above Water

Heinemann International Incorporated Buchi Emecheta's autobiography spans the transition from a tribal childhood in the African bush to life in North London as an internationally acclaimed writer.

Writing Across Cultures

Gender Politics and Difference in the Fiction of Buchi Emecheta

[Rodopi](#) This is a timely and comprehensive study combining various critical approaches to the fiction of Buchi Emecheta, one of Africa's most illustrious and contentious women writers. Feminist (Showalter, Cixous, Kristeva) and postcolonial approaches (writing back) are taken to Emecheta's texts to illuminate the personal, political and aesthetic ramifications of the production of this "born writer." Poststructural programmes of analysis are shown to be less relevant to this writer's fiction than Marxist and Bakhtinian perspectives. Emecheta is shown to be a bridge-builder between two cultures and two worlds in narratives (both challenging and popular) characterized by ambiguity, ambivalence and double-voiced discourse, all of which evince the writer's determination to expose imaginatively the colonial heritage of centre-periphery conflicts, cultural corruption, ethnic discrimination, gender oppression, and the migrant experience in multiracial communities.

Africa Wo/Man Palava

The Nigerian Novel by Women

[University of Chicago Press](#) Ogunyemi uses the novels to trace a Nigerian women's literary tradition that reflects an ideology centered on children and community. Of prime importance is the paradoxical Mammywata figure, the independent, childless mother, who serves as a basis for the postcolonial woman in the novels and in society at large. Ogunyemi tracks this figure through many permutations, from matriarch to writer, her multiple personalities reflecting competing loyalties. This sustained critical study counters prevailing "masculinist" theories of black literature in a powerful narrative of the Nigerian world.

Literature of Africa

[Greenwood Publishing Group](#) Looks at the work of ten African authors, including Chinua Achebe, Miriama Ba, Nadine Gordimer, and Alan Paton.

Encyclopedia of Motherhood

[SAGE](#) In the last decade, the topic of motherhood has emerged as a distinct and established field of scholarly inquiry. A cursory review of motherhood research reveals that hundreds of scholarly articles have been published on almost every motherhood theme imaginable. The Encyclopedia of Motherhood is a collection of approximately 700 articles in a three-volume, A-to-Z set exploring major topics related to motherhood, from geographical, historical and cultural entries to anthropological and psychological contributions. In human society, few institutions are as important as motherhood, and this unique encyclopedia captures the interdisciplinary foundation of the subject in one convenient reference. The Encyclopedia is a comprehensive resource designed to provide an understanding of the complexities of motherhood for academic and public libraries, and is written by academics and institutional experts in the social and behavioural sciences.