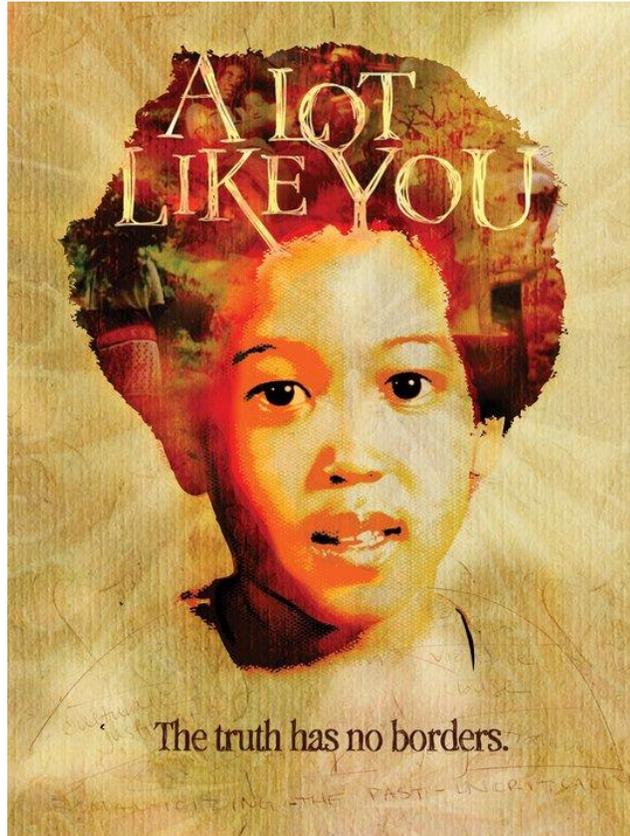


FILM DISCUSSION GUIDE



Before viewing the film:

1. How do you define 'family'?

2. How much do you know about your family history?

3. What kinds of events can lead to a breakdown in family relationships?

During the Film:

Identifying Characters

Match the character with the appropriate description:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| ___ Eliaichi (Narrator) | a) implemented a system based on Ujamaa in Tanzania |
| ___ Young (Eliaichi's Mom) | b) interviews her family members |
| ___ Sadikiel (Eliaichi's Dad) | c) talks about the rich symbolism in Chagga huts |
| ___ Merinyo (Eliaichi's Friend) | d) was denied education, despite being "extremely brainy" |
| ___ Mariale (a Chagga Chief) | e) passed exams with the highest marks in his/her country |
| ___ Julius Nyerere | f) wanted Tanzania to gain independence slowly, allowing individual tribes to self-govern |
| ___ Awanyisa (Eliaichi's Aunt) | g) acted sick to try to prevent a bi-racial marriage |

Comprehension Questions

1. Why does Eliaichi decide go back to Tanzania as an adult and talk with her relatives?

2. How does the Chagga chief in Sadikiel's village lose his chieftaincy?

3. Why was Young considered to be the “black sheep” of her family?

4. What makes Sadikiel decide to leave Tanzania to live in the US a second time?
With what organization does he start his new career?

5. Why does Eliachi decide that she needs to talk to her aunts without her uncles
and father around?

6. What does Awanyisa (one of Eliachi’s aunts) do a few months before she
passes away?

7. What difficult decision does Eliachi make, after talking to her aunts and learning
their stories?

Post-Viewing Discussion Questions:

1. a) Eliaichi tells viewers that she spent months trying to capture “real Chagga culture.” What did she mean by “real Chagga culture”?
 - b) Eliaichi felt like villagers performed for her what they thought she wanted to see. Why would they do this? How did this make Eliaichi feel?
2. Choose one of the following characters:

Young / Sadikiel / Eliaichi

What roles do **place** and **race** play in determining how they are identified by others? How they are treated by others? How they see themselves?

3. Why did Sadikiel build a Chagga hut? What does this reveal about the relationship between modernity and older Chagga customs?
4. When Eliaichi brought all of Sadikiel’s siblings together to talk, she mentioned that it was one of the only a few times they have gathered together as adults, despite living in close proximity. Why do you think this is so?
5. What is Sadikiel’s response to his sisters’ experiences? Why does he take this stance?
6. Why do you think Eliaichi named this film “A Lot Like You”?



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