

Fernea - Guests of the Sheik – Parts IV and V: Ch. 19-24

© Copyright Bruce Owen 2007

- Quiz
- Chapter 19, Autumn
 - Sitt Aliyah, girl's school principal, leaves for Diwaniya
 - Sitt Aziza replaces her
 - Becomes friend of BJ's
- Chapter 20, An Excursion into the Country
 - Aziza with her cousin from Diwaniya invites BJ for a ride into the country
 - Laila comes along
 - Laila is very quiet
 - The women meet some hostile probable squatters
 - Laila begs Aziza not to say where they are from, but she does p. 259
 - Laila refuses to be photographed
 - Later, at home, Mohammed explains the trouble Laila is in, and BJ is at fault
 - She could be beaten or killed
 - The cousin has a bad reputation
 - All agree to lie, say that it was another cousin who was with BJ and Aziza
 - Laila's 3 older sisters chew BJ out for endangering Laila
 - Months later, Selma asks, BJ remembers to lie
 - BJ had thought she understood the culture, but discovered that he was only seeing the tip of the iceberg
- Chapter 21, Winter
 - Cold, TB flares up
 - BJ gets sick
 - Laila, Rajat insist on being with her
 - A sick person need social support more than ever
 - Bob wants to give donation to a poor man who gets charity from many people
 - Gets strange reactions or is ignored when he mentions it
 - Asks Mohammed to buy a sack of grain for him
 - "He is a man; let him decide"
 - discussing charity is bad taste
 - recipient has as many or more rights than donor
 - "how many ways we seek to gratify ourselves"
 - Two engineers arrive for dinner and cards
 - The women come to keep BJ company
- Chapter 22, Jabbar Becomes Engaged
 - Jabbar is respected for his fair dealings and respect for both Sheik Hamid and the mayor
 - Revolutionary, anti-Western, Marxist
 - College friend Naji finds Jabbar a potential wife, from a powerful, conservative family

- Another college friend, Abdul Razzak, runs into Jabbar and Naji
 - Suggests his sister, just released to be married because her sick mother has died
- Jabbar prefers marrying into Abdul Razzak's family
- The sister is also “modern”, wants to meet Jabbar, they don't like each other
- Jabbar gets engaged to the first girl
- Chapter 23, Death in the Tribe and in the Town
 - Um Saad's mourning
- Chapter 24, At Home in El Nahra
 - Hamid's son Ahmar wants to marry Moussa's daughter Sanaa
 - Hamid wants him to marry one of Abdullah's daughters
 - Moussa doesn't want to irritate Hamid, because he may soon have to buy land from him
 - marriage as a matter between families, not just between the bride and groom