

BOOK CLUB in a bag

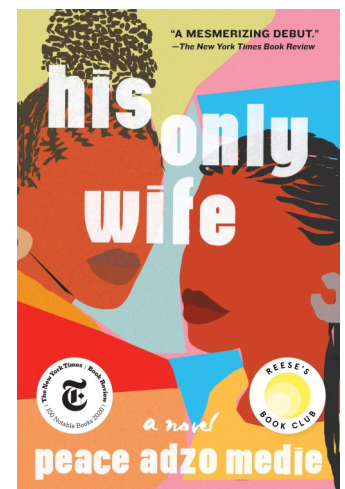


His Only Wife

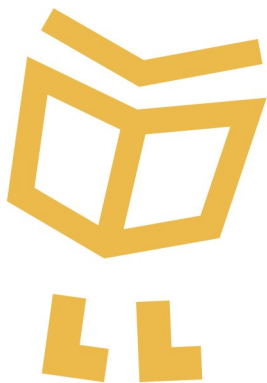
Peace Adzo Medie

Discussion Questions

1. How does the opening sentence reflect the rest of the novel? What does it lead you to expect about how Afi and Eli's relationship would develop?
2. How much do Afi's mother and her other relatives influence Afi's decision to marry Eli? Do you think she would have agreed to the union if this pressure were absent? Do you think women in your society are also subject to pressure to get married? If so, where does it come from and what does it look like?
3. Do you think Afi's decision to marry Eli was the right one? Why?
4. Other than their wish to see Afi and Eli married, are there other similarities between Afi's mother and Auntie?
5. What are the ways in which the novel shows the effect that Afi's social class has on her choices and on the way her relationship with Eli unfolds?
6. What does marriage mean to each of the women (Afi, Mawusi, Yaya, Evelyn, Afi's mother, Auntie) in the book? What do they expect of a marriage and what are the reasons for their expectations? Do their expectations change as the story progresses, and what explains the change or lack thereof?
7. How and why does Afi's relationship with her mother differ from Mawusi's relationship with her own mother (Daavi Christy)? How does Afi's relationship with her mother shape the decisions she makes?
8. What does Eli's treatment of Afi during her pregnancy (after she returns from Ho) say about his character?



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About the Author

Peace Adzo Medie is a Ghanaian writer and senior lecturer in gender and international politics at the University of Bristol in England. Prior to that she was a research fellow at the University of Ghana. She has published several short stories, and her book *Global Norms and Local Action: The Campaigns to End Violence Against Women in Africa* was published by Oxford University Press in 2020. She is an award-winning scholar and has been awarded several fellowships. She holds a PhD in public and international affairs from the University of Pittsburgh and a BA in geography from the University of Ghana. She was born in Liberia.

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