

THE DUBE TRAIN BY CAN THEMBA

1. Summary



The narrator is at Dube Station in Soweto on a cold Monday morning, waiting for the train to Johannesburg. All his descriptions of the station and people emphasise his depression, which he feels is shared by all the people around him.

When he gets onto the train he sits opposite a huge man. When the train gets to Pheloni Station a young woman enters the carriage and sits next to the narrator. Soon afterwards a tsotsi jumps onto the train and begins verbally harassing the girl. When the girl reaches her stop and wants to get off the train the tsotsi prevents her and slaps her. She tries to get away from him by jumping over the narrator but the tsotsi follows her.

No one dares to say anything to stop the tsotsi, until an older woman starts shouting at the men and calling them cowards. This causes the tsotsi to swear at the woman. This angers the huge man sitting opposite the narrator and he gets up and moves towards the tsotsi. The tsotsi pulls out a knife and cuts the big man's chest and arm. The big man is enraged and, in spite of his injuries, he grabs the tsotsi and lifts him up. He throws him out of the train window.

Everyone is shocked, but the incident soon becomes just another event on the morning Dube train.

2. Title

The title focuses on the train journey rather than on any characters in the story. The writer intends us to see the train journey as a comment on the lives people experience. Even when bad things happen people just accept them. The incident on the train happens to people no one knows or is concerned about. It soon becomes: Just an incident in the morning Dube train.



3. Themes

The main themes of this story are:

- Violence, crime and barbarism in the townships; and



Read Dube Train Short Story

**John W. Leonard, Albert Nelson
Marquis**



Read Dube Train Short Story:

The South African Short Story in English, 1920-2010 Marta Fossati, 2024-09-05 Through detailed close readings alongside investigations into the history of print culture Marta Fossati traces the development of the South African short story in English from the late 1920s to the first decade of the twenty first century She examines a selection of short stories by important Black South African writers Rolfes and Herbert Dhlomo Peter Abrahams Can Themba Alex La Guma Mtutuzeli Matshoba Ahmed Essop and Zo Wicomb with an alertness to the dialogue between ethics and aesthetics performed by these texts This new history of Black short fiction problematises and interrogates the often polarised readings of Black literature in South Africa that can be torn between notions of literariness protest and journalism Due to material constraints short fiction in South Africa circulated first and foremost through local print media which Fossati analyses in detail to show the cross fertilisation between journalism and the short story While rooted in the South African context the short stories considered also hold a translocal dimension allowing us to explore the ethical and aesthetic practice of intertextuality These are writings that complicate the aesthetics ethics binary generic classifications and the categories of the literary and the political Theoretically eclectic in its approach although largely underpinned by a narratological analysis *The South African Short Story in English 1920 2010 When Aesthetics Meets Ethics* offers a fresh perspective on the South African short story in English spotlighting several hitherto marginalised figures in South African literary studies [South Africa's Alternative Press](#) Les Switzer, 1997-02-13 Collection of essays on the South African alternative press from the 1880s to the 1960s [The Short Story in South Africa](#) Rebecca Fasselt, Corinne Sandwith, 2022-03-24 This book considers the key critical interventions on short story writing in South Africa written in English since the year 2000 The short story genre whilst often marginalised in national literary canons has been central to the trajectory of literary history in South Africa In recent years the short story has undergone a significant renaissance with new collections and young writers making a significant impact on the contemporary literary scene and subgenres such as speculative fiction erotic fiction flash fiction and queer fiction expanding rapidly in popularity This book examines the role of the short story genre in reflecting or championing new developments in South African writing and the ways in which traditional boundaries and definitions of the short story in South Africa have been reimagined in the present Drawing together a range of critical interventions including scholarly articles interviews and personal reflective pieces the volume traces some of the aesthetic and thematic continuities and discontinuities in the genre and sheds new light on questions of literary form Finally the book considers the place of the short story in twenty first century writing and interrogates the ways in which the short story form may contribute to or recast ideas of the post apartheid or post transitional The perfect guide to contemporary short story writing in South Africa this book will be essential reading for researchers of African literature **Can Themba** Siphiwo Mahala, 2022-03-30 Mahala's biography gives insight into the life and writing of Can Themba 1924 1967 an iconic figure of the South African literary world and Drum

journalist who died in exile Can Themba The Intellectual Tsotsi a Biography brings to life the iconic South African writer and journalist Can Themba 21 June 1924 8 September 1967 who died while exiled in Swaziland in 1967 Best known for his classic short story The Suit Themba has been somewhat of an enigma with very little known about his personal life This biography brings forth the voices of those who had personal interactions with him shining the light on different aspects of his life including education literature journalism and political fraternities It features interviews with prominent individuals including his former students Abdul Bham Pitika Ntuli and Mbulelo Mzamane journalistic mentees Juby Mayet and Joe Thloloe as well as friends colleagues and contemporaries Parks Mangena Peter Magubane Jurgen Schadeberg Don Mattera and Nadine Gordimer in addition to artists and academics Mothobi Mutloatse Muxe Nkondo and Njabulo S Ndebele Also featured in this biographical text are veteran political figures such as Mangosuthu Buthelezi Lindiwe Mabuza and Ahmed Kathrada Themba's intellectual acumen scholarly aptitude and witticism are some of his most revered characteristics amongst those who had interactions with him either in person or through comprehensive reading of his works Mahala is a master storyteller and deftly weaves together the threads of Themba's dynamic life In this edifying biography Mahala recreates the sparkle and pathos of Sophiatown of the 1950s and the Drum era Can Themba's successes and failures as well as his triumphs and tribulations reverberate on the pages of this long awaited biography Fact - Fiction - "faction" Horst Zander,1999

Looking for a Rain God and Other Short Stories from Africa Ian Gordon,1995 A collection of short stories from Africa covering a range of subjects from the conflict between traditional and new ways of life and values to the role of women in society The main introduction provides a background for discussion as well as ideas for students to use in their own writing

Attitudes G. E. De Villiers,2002 The title of this work Attitudes is intended to sum up the link that connects the stories or put another way the thread running through them Each story deals with the attitude of the writer or one or more of the characters towards a different subject *West Africa* ,1965 **A Vision of Order** Ursula A. Barnett,1983 **Science**

Fiction and Fantasy Literature Vol 2 R. Reginald,Mary A. Burgess,Douglas Menville,2010-09-01 Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature A Checklist 1700 1974 Volume Two of Two contains Contemporary Science Fiction Authors II **Drum** ,1998-02 *Metropolitan* ,1912 **Lutheran Evangelist** ,1904 *Limi* ,1969 **Botsotso** ,1999 **Life and Light for Heathen Women** ,1896 **The Routledge Handbook of the New African Diasporic Literature** Lokangaka

Losambe,Tanure Ojaide,2024-05-16 The Routledge Handbook of the New African Diasporic Literature introduces world literature readers to the transnational multivocal writings of immigrant African authors Covering works produced in Europe North America and elsewhere in the world this book investigates three major aesthetic paradigms in African diasporic literature the Sankofan wave late 1960s early 1990s the Janusian wave 1990s 2020s and the Offshoots of the New Arrivants those born and growing up outside Africa Written by well established and emerging scholars of African and diasporic literatures from across the world the chapters in the book cover the works of well known and not so well known Anglophone

Francophone and Lusophone writers from different theoretical positionalities and critical approaches pointing out the unique innovative artistic qualities of this major subgenre of African literature The focus on the diasporic consciousness of the writers and their works sets this handbook apart from others that solely emphasize migration which is more of a process than the community of settled African people involved in the dynamic acts of living reflected in diasporic writings This book will appeal to researchers and students from across the fields of Literature Diaspora Studies African Studies Migration Studies and Postcolonial Studies Moto ,1983 **Who's who in America** John W. Leonard,Albert Nelson Marquis,1928 Vols 28 30 accompanied by separately published parts with title Indices and necrology **Daily Graphic** Yaw Boadu-Ayeboafah,2006-05-15

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