

Name: _____

College: _____

Shabanu

Read: p. 174-193: chapters “Yazman” and “Justice”

Study Questions:

1. What has Shabanu learned about “the fragility of happiness”?

2. On a separate piece of paper, write or type a well-constructed paragraph with a topic sentence, supporting details, and a concluding sentence about the important decision that is made concerning the marriages of Phulan and Shabanu. Is the decision which Dadi, Bibi Lal, and Mama make a just (FAIR) decision? **Select one of the four options below and write a paragraph** which supports your position.
 1. If you believe the decision is just, explain your reasons. Include in your explanation who wins and who loses in the decision.
 2. If you believe the decision is unjust, explain your reasons. Include in your explanation who wins and who loses in the decision.
 3. If you believe the decision is unjust but unavoidable, explain your reasons. Include in your explanation who wins and who loses in the decision.
 4. If you believe a different decision should have been made, explain your decision. Include in your explanation who would win and who would lose in your solution to the problem.

Read: p. 194-209 “The Choice”

Study Questions:

1. How does Shabanu feel about the gifts Rahim-*sahib* is giving her? What is Dadi’s response? What does this tell you about their cultural customs surrounding marriage?

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2. On p. 202, Shabanu thinks to herself, “Half of me longs to be Phulan. She will marry my own dear Murad, and she is beautiful. I am small and strong with too much spirit, and I think too much. I am lonely and fearful, and I long for the days when I was free in the desert.” How do you think the other half of her feels?

3. Sharma and Dadi have an argument over the decision for Shabanu to marry Rahim-*sahib*. What are Sharma's arguments? How does Dadi respond?

4. What are Sharma's concerns for Shabanu being Rahim-*sahib*'s fourth wife? How does she think the other wives will feel about her? Why?

5. What is the choice available to Shabanu according to Sharma? What might be the consequences of either choice for Shabanu or her family?