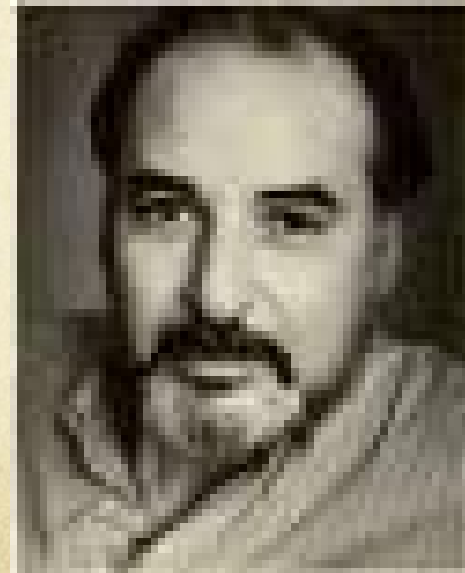


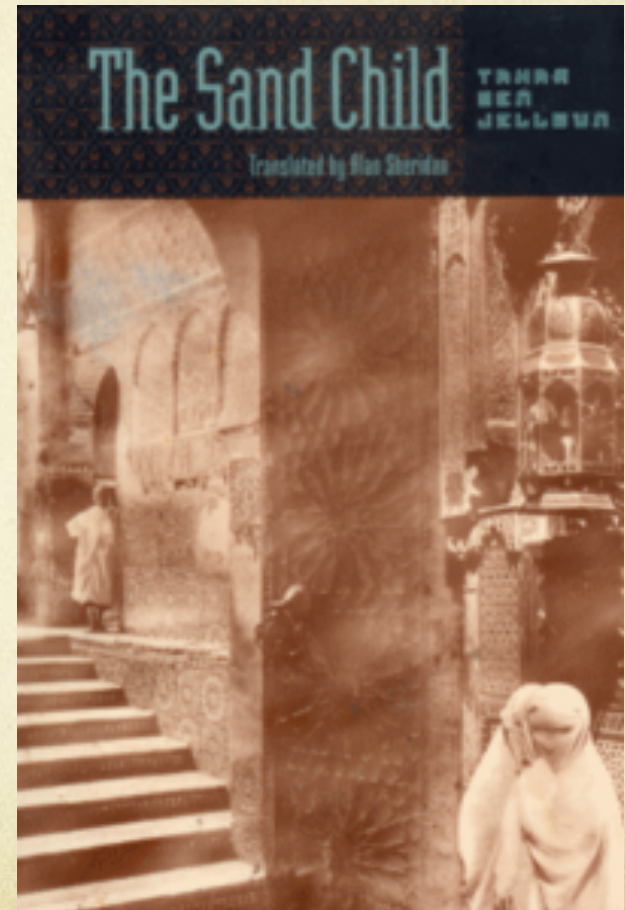


Biography of Tahar Ben Jelloun and Morocco Snapshot



The Sand Child Themes

- Surrealism
 - Poetic, lyrical language
 - Unreliable narrators
- Gender
- Sexuality/Dysfunction
- Oral Tradition
 - Importance of storytelling
 - Multiply storytellers

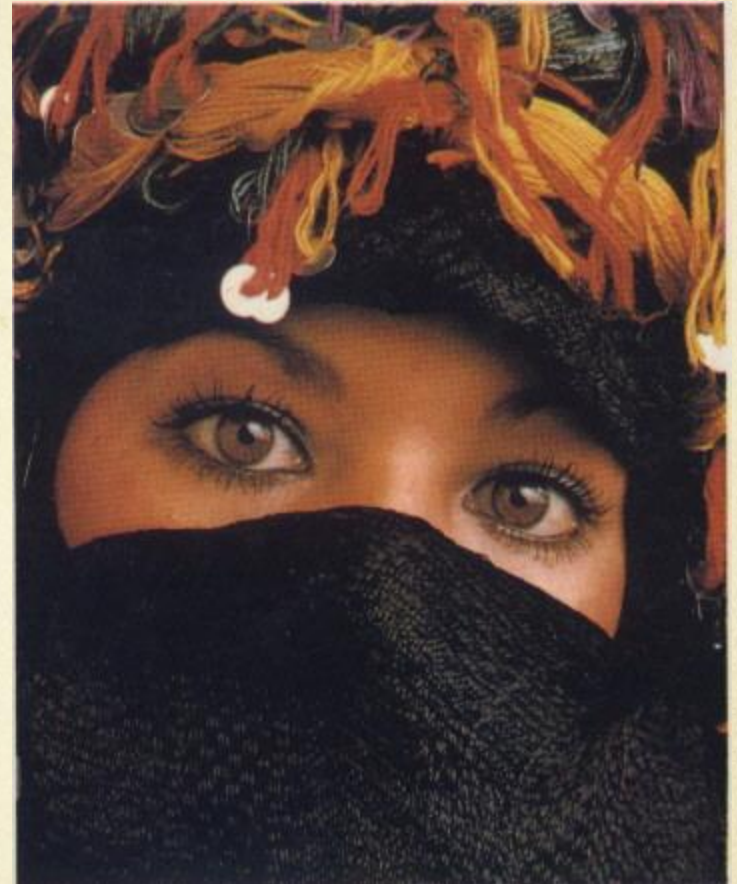


Morocco



Language

- Arabic
- French
- Derija



Moroccan Tradition

- Greetings
 - Shaking hands
- Gestures
 - Pointing
 - Eating
 - Crossing legs
- Dating and Marriage
- Inheritance Law
- Role of Women



Politics

- Islamic, Democratic, Social Constitutional Monarchy
- International and Regional Organizations
- Constitution
 - Equal Rights to education and employment
 - Political parties
 - Right to strike
- French Colonization

Interactive Oral: Discussion

- Topics
 - Inheritance Law
 - Moroccan Culture vs. American Culture
 - Women in Morocco vs. Women in Western Society
 - Time Period and Place: Post-Colonial Morocco
 - Predictions for Book





Biography of Tahar Ben Jelloun

Early Years & Education

- Born in Fez, Morocco in 1944
- Attended University in Morocco and completed a bachelors in 1971.
- Immigrated to France in 1971 and studied at the University of Paris. Earned a PhD in Psychiatric Social Work in 1975

Moroccan Culture

- Situations unfamiliar to his audience may be difficult to relate to; therefore his stories may lose some legitimacy. An obvious example is that of pretending that one's daughter is a son in order to preserve one's property and maintain one's prestige. Although this probably seems foreign to most, one could argue that the themes of gender identity and the way in which it relates to power and societal structure are pervasive throughout all cultures. Not only does Ben Jelloun write about Moroccan situations that may be seen by others as nonsensical and/or uncivilized, but he openly criticizes them.

Surrealism

- It has been said that Ben Jelloun is primarily a poet; therefore his writing style resembles that of a poet. His work is concise yet full of poetic images and lyrical language. Ben Jelloun is a story teller, but he also allows the reader to become involved in his magical world. Dream-like states, hallucinations, and allusions to Andre Breton and the exquisite corpse each give Ben Jelloun's work a magical intoxicated quality. Unreliable narrators and different points of view of the same story add to the mystical atmosphere as well.

Sexuality/Dysfunction

- Having received his doctorate for the relationship between sexuality and immigration into France of North African male workers, Ben Jelloun also is quite interested in sexuality and dysfunction. The majority of his works have the protagonist suffering from some sort of dysfunction.

Works Cited

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