

Waiting For The Rain is a historical fiction novel by Sheila Gordon.

This story tells about a young, black boy searching for answers and change. Tengo lives with his family of five in a small hut a mile away from the farm where they work. Everyday he and his parents go out into the strong rays of the sun to work in the fields. During this time black people were experiencing racism at its worst. Of course, slavery had already ended, but that hadn't changed anyone's point of view. Tengo and Frikkie had always been good friends. Color didn't seem to matter *then*. Soon, that would all change...

~~Tengo wanted to learn and explore the world. Frikkie wanted everything the way it used to be on the farm. Years went by and their friendship weakened. They grew even further apart when Tengo decided to go to Johannesburg for schooling. School closed because students started rallies. "Liberation first! Education after!" Tengo would have to choose between his education and fighting back. While Tengo was studying, Frikkie was doing his military service. Frikkie and Tengo were oblivious that they would get a final opportunity to share their last thoughts of the situation before they went their separate ways.~~

Neither Frikkie nor Tengo had any idea that it would come to this. Something that had started so well had to end so badly. Their decisions would send them in different directions for the better and the worse. Yet no matter what they choose to do in the future they would never forget the lives they used to live and the childhood memories that they shared on the farm.

This is the best historical book I've ever read. It is definitely a *need-to-read* book for every generation. Before reading I would suggest the reader do some background research. I recommend this book for people twelve and older of either gender. The greatest part about this book is how Sheila Gordon uses one main character to tell the story behind the entire black population. She really showed how hard it was growing up as a child knowing that something was wrong, but not being able to show full emotion. Waiting For The Rain made me think and inspired me in different ways.