

African Literature Cheat Sheet

Version 3.0

Authors are listed roughly chronologically, in order of the publication of their most important works.

Author	Works	Details
--------	-------	---------

South Africa

Alan <u>Paton</u>	Cry, the Beloved Country	Stephen Kumalo travels from Ndotsheni to Johannesburg for his son, Absalom , who is executed for the murder of Arthur Jarvis ; Theophilus Msimangu ; Stephen's sister, Gertrude
	Too Late the Phalarope Ah, But Your Land is Beautiful	
Nadine <u>Gordimer</u>	July's People	the title former servant takes in her former employers, Bam and Maureen Smales , the latter of whom ends the book by running toward a mysterious helicopter
	Burger's Daughter The Conservationist	
Athol <u>Fugard</u>	"Master Harold" ...and the Boys	play; describes the relationship between Hally and his servants, Sam and Willie
J.M. <u>Coetzee</u>	Disgrace	describes the decline of professor David Lurie
	The Life and Times of Michael K	

Nigeria

Chinua <u>Achebe</u>	Things Fall Apart	Okonkwo lives in Umuofia and kills his adopted son, Ikemefuna
	"An Image of Africa"	a critique of the racism of Joseph Conrad's <i>Heart of Darkness</i>
	Arrow of God	
Wole <u>Soyinka</u>	Death and the King's Horseman	play; after colonial ruler Simon Pilkings stops Elesin's ritual suicide, Elesin's son, Olunde, dies in his place
	The Lion and the Jewel	play; Baroka; Sidi
Chimamanda <u>Adichie</u>	Americanah Half a Yellow Sun We Should All Be Feminists	

Other

Naguib <u>Mahfouz</u> Egypt	Cairo Trilogy	includes <i>Palace of Desire</i> , <i>Sugar Street</i> , and <i>Palace Walk</i>
	Midaq Alley	