Synopsis of *She*

Ludwig Horace Holly, an Englishman from Cambridge, is asked by his friend Vincey to be a guardian for his son, Leo. Vincey then dies shortly afterwards and he has left his son a legacy in the form of an iron box, which can only be opened when he is twenty-five years old. Twenty years later, the box is opened, and its contents include Leo’s father’s letter and an explanation about their ancestor from Egypt, a priest named Kallikrates who fled to Africa with his wife Amenartas, and after a series of events, got killed by the queen of a savage tribe. The letter informs Leo that since then the descendants of Kallikrates have been trying to kill the person who murdered him, and now it is Leo’s turn to do it.

Soon Holly, Leo, and their servant Job travel to Africa to search for the queen. However, their ship is wrecked by a violent sea storm, leaving only the three of them and an Arab named Mahomed as survivors of the accident. Then they continue the journey through the vast land of Africa, and through numerous ordeals they finally manage to meet the tribe of Amahaggers, whose leader is none other than the woman they are searching for, the one who is called *She*. They live temporarily in one of the Amahaggers’ caves and get acquainted with a man named Billali and a girl named Ustane, who falls in love with Leo. Shortly afterwards, there is a clash between the western people and the Amahaggers, resulting in the death of Mahomed. To avoid further conflicts, they soon depart.
and finally are able to meet the queen, whose real name is Ayesha, a 2000-year-old woman who actually killed Kallikrates long ago.

The three people then live in Ayesha’s place for a while, getting perplexed by her amazing beauty and power. One day, Ayesha finds that Leo’s face is exactly the same as his ancestor Kallikrates’ face, and she declares that he is his reincarnation. It becomes clear later that Ayesha once loved Kallikrates but then killed him out of jealousy. She becomes emotional again, and causes her to kill Ustane, who is considered her rival. Apparently, Ustane is the reincarnation of Kallikrates’ wife, Amenartas, who managed to escape after Kallikrates has been killed.

Thinking that finally Kallikrates has returned to her, Ayesha then asks the three people to go to some place, where she will reveal the secret of her prolonged life and magical power. She then takes them into a cave in the mountain, a place which according to her, is the hermitage of a recluse named Noot. The place itself is hard to reach, but the team finally manage to get to the hidden spot, deep down in the mountain.

In the incredible place Ayesha shows them an astonishing pillar of flame which she calls the fountain of life, and which gave her power almost 2000 years ago. Her intention is to ask Leo to stand in the middle of the flame so as to receive the same power as she has, so that the two of them can marry and live forever as a couple who rule the entire world with their power.

However, before the ritual, Leo is scared seeing the pillar of flame and refuses to enter it. Ayesha then takes the initiative to enter the pillar of flame once again in order to renew her power once more and if possible to strengthen it to the maximum. When Ayesha enters it, however, her body shrinks and she finally dies.
instead of getting more power. Job dies from the terrible shock, while Holly and Leo eventually manage to escape from the mountain and return to England after going through a series of difficulties along the way.

**Synopsis of The Leopard Hunts in Darkness**

Craig Mellow, a writer who lives in New York, is asked by Henry Pickering, a representative of the World Bank, to go to Africa and check their investments. Craig agrees, and soon he flies to Zimbabwe, Africa, to survey the mentioned assets.

Later he meets with his old friend Tungata Zebiwe who doesn’t welcome him. Zebiwe is the leader of the Matabele tribe who has gained a good position in the government. Later he meets Peter Fungabera, who tells him that Tungata is a poacher who illegally hunts down elephants and other animals in the area. Then Peter asks Craig to help him catch Tungata in a set-up operation.

The trap works, and one night Tungata is caught by surprise. Thinking that every problem has been solved, Craig starts to finish his previous activity while planning a new one; he wants to settle down in Africa with a woman named Sally-Anne. He enjoys his new life just for a short while, then one day Peter Fungabera and his men storm Craig’s residence and falsely accused him guilty of several crimes.

Through fierce intimidations and threats, Craig is then forced to sign a paper saying that he is guilty of all accusations, and agrees to hand over King’s Lynn, his estate in Africa. Soon Craig learns that Peter Fungabera has planned this, because his efforts is to get close to Craig in order to obtain the estate for his own benefit.
Although Peter Fungabera has already got what he wants, he intends to leave no witnesses alive, so that he orders the murder of both Craig and Sally-Anne. However, one of Fungabera’s men named Timon Nbebi helps the two instead of killing them as Fungabera has ordered him to do. Together, the three people then escape to Kalahari Desert, and in the end only Craig and Sally-Anne survive, while Timon dies defending them against the pursuers. However, before he dies, Timon Nbebi tells the two people that Peter Fungabera is the real master poacher in the area, and he captures Tungata Zebiwe so that he will not be an obstacle to him. He also tells them about the clashes between the two tribes, the Mashonas and the Matabeles.

Soon afterwards, Craig and Sally-Anne construct a plan to free Tungata Zebiwe and revenge themselves on Peter Fungabera. Through several clashes and with the help of the people of Matabele tribe, they finally manage to rescue Tungata. It is from him that they hear about Peter Fungabera’s next target, a forgotten treasure in the form of diamonds belonging to Tungata’s ancestors.

After a frantic journey and search, they eventually manage to discover the place where the valuable treasure is hidden, and they try to recover it before Peter Fungabera does. Meanwhile, Peter Fungabera takes the easy way to find the exact spot of the treasures by asking the members of the tribe who guard it. He even tortures several black Africans cruelly until one of them can’t stand it and tells him where the treasure is. However, knowing that Craig and companions are already there, he decides to seal the entrance in hope that they will be trapped inside. After working hard, however, Craig and the others manage to get out of the caves, steal a helicopter, forcefully abduct Peter Fungabera, and reveal all his crimes to end his reign. The story ends with the condition that Tungata Zebiwe
regains his credibility among the tribes, while Craig and Sally-Anne regain their properties and eventually settle down in their estate.

**Biography of Henry Rider Haggard**

Henry Rider Haggard was born in West Bradenham Hall, Norfolk, as the son of William Haggard and Ella (Doventon) Haggard. He was educated privately at a London day-school, and also Ipswich Grammar School. Later he married a Norfolk heiress, Mariana Louisa Margitson. They moved to Transvaal afterwards.

Haggard is a prolific English writer, who published great novels which are set in Africa. One of his most famous adventure novels is *King Solomon’s Mine*, which is inspired by the famous novel *Treasure Island* written by Robert Louis Stevenson.

During his years in Africa, Haggard got acquainted with Zulu culture. He also had an affair with an African woman, and conducted a deep relationship with her. He is also the author of the adventure novel *Allan Quatermain*.

**Biography of Wilbur Smith**

Wilbur Smith is a full-time writer who was born in Zambia, and has lived all his life in Africa. He is a master storyteller, and a bestselling author of adventure fiction novels such as *The Elephant Song* and *The Sound of Thunder*. His novels show diverse surroundings, detailed stories, and realism. He also has abundance of power in his words. Some of Smith’s discussions in his novels include African tribalism, capitalism, and colonialism. Smith also financed expeditions to Africa and Alaska.