

The Dark Child - Camara Laye

the black sheep of the family

he when goes to France he'll be different.

lost, unfamiliar... from Africa to France where he'll be different

memoir,

focuses on one specific time in one person's life -

a 2 day period } from his graduation from college to going to France to study on Scholarship

Laye gets a scholarship to study in France, argues with his mom because she doesn't want him to go... dad wants him to go. He was already away for four years. Mom is worried he will change if he goes to France, will forget his culture. In their culture family is very important and kids are expected to take care of their parents

his dad understands that he wants to go, and it is a good opportunity. his mom is worried he will forget his cultural values if he leaves.

gets a call to go to France on scholarship

mom is upset... doesn't want him to go because he's gone so long

Laye and dad talk about him going to France for 1 year his mom is still upset

tells his mom, and she's upset but he knows he's going anyway and accepts it.

gets on the plane to leave; realizes he'll miss his parents

- Main character, friend and uncle traveled to go to college... most people in Africa have to leave / travel to get higher education.
 - Cultural values are very important - very family oriented.
 - People are worried about the younger generation going away... worried they will forget who they are, their religion, culture, ect.
1. How long was Hage gone before coming home?
 2. Where did he have a scholarship to go study?
 3. What type of text is the dark child?
 4. Describe the characterization of the mother and father.
 5. Why doesn't the mother want her son to leave again?