

SYNOPSIS

This story is talking about a ten-year-old girl named Darling. She is living in a little city in Zimbabwe called Paradise. It is an area where the children living here do not come to school because the government closed the school. Because the children do not have anything to do, their activity is only playing. There are so many poverty and injustice in Paradise. None of them who living in Paradise have proper home and job. Darling has best friends named Shbo, Bastard, Chipu, Stina and Godknows. Like the other children which living in Paradise, Darling and her friends do not come to school too. To kill their time, they always play together and their hobbies are stealing guavas to kill their hunger. In Paradise, Darling lives with her mother but when her mother goes to the border to sell things, Darling stays with her grandmother named Mother of Bones, until her mother returns. Sometimes her mother comes back after only a few days, sometimes after a week. Darling's father is working in South Africa, but he never writes to Darling and her mother, and never sends money. Little Darling has a big dream. She dreams that one day she can leave Paradise and move to a better place which is America. America brings a new hope for Darling. In Darling's dream, living in America can make her life better. America has so many things which Paradise does not has. She knows that one day she can move to America because Darling has an aunt named Fostalina which has already stayed in America. Darling's friends always underestimate her dream. They say that it is impossible for Darling leaving

Paradise, living in America and having a better life, but she does not change her dream.

One day, after Darling grows up and becomes a teenager, she can leave Paradise, move to America and live with her aunt, uncle and cousin in Detroit. After she has already been in America she realizes that America is different from Paradise. The people in America are individual. In America Darling comes to a senior high school and she gets two best friends. Her life is better after moving to America, but Darling should assimilate with her new environment because America and Paradise have different cultures. And she knows what she has expected about America is different from the reality. After graduated from senior high school, because she does not have enough money, Darling works to collect money so she can continue her study to university. She becomes a shop keeper and a servant in the house of aunt Fostalina's boss. When she decides to come back to Paradise because she wants to visit her family and friends, she does not have enough money. In the end of the story, Darling still cannot come back home and she does not have enough money to continue her study. Darling is still making struggle for her life.

