

## **Sweet Sixteen (16) Chapter One - "THE LETTER" Comprehensive and Concise Summary**

Aliya is the only child of her parents, She turned 16 previous month, couple of days before the end of the school term. Aliya read the book "Sweet sixteen" when she was 14. Aliya hate been called a child because it means the same as stupid to her and she always believe she has found her self drawn to grown up things.

At 10, Aliya started wearing bras, and at 14 she's already a size 16. Aliya's father always believed aliya is still a child and she should enjoy been a child. Aliya's mother was a nurse while her father was well many things. When aliya was born, her father was a journalist. When she's in primary school, her father works in a public relation agency.

Aliya is not very social but she already thinks of rendering her services to the human race in the nearest future. This reflects in her choice of wanting to initially study medicine in order to help children who have asthma like her. Also, she wants to donate inhalers to the school clinic for asthmatic students who don't have inhalers.

Mr. Bello is Aliya's father. He is a learned man who values education and reading books. He is morally upright and he is a good father who performs his duties excellently well to his daughter. He is attentive, patient and consistent. He gives his daughter the best thing a child can ever ask for - love, care, attention and a father-daughter relationship.

Mrs. Bello is Aliya's mother. She is a nurse and a good mother too. She supports her husband's decisions and opinions though she may not agree with them. She is quick to anger and doesn't hide it when she is.

Aliya turned 16 when she was still in school. Aliya's father believed the only thing worth celebrating was a major achievement. Which made her better known that birthday is not an achievement to his father. Whatever the case, birthday were not a regular event in their home. When aliya left home for boarding school, things changes.

Her father who never remembered aliya's birthday did not fails to send her daughter "aliya" birthday gift/card after she left home for school. Aliya turned 12 when she was in Jss 1. The birthday card was handed to her by the school principal after the morning assembly.

From the birthday card her father send "Happy Birthday, my first lady. Remember that only God is greater than you" Aliya wonder why her father called her "first lady" and from the message sent to her, she is yet to understand what her father meant by "only God is greater than you." It made me feels very important, as i was some kind of God's deputy;

Aliya says.

Akin who is aliya's classmate always called himself "king of boys", in which aliya has always wished he had a junior sister or brother like Akin. Akin is smart and he was the most unserious human being in the world. He always became so funny person to his classmate. Aliya turned 16 on Tuesday, she woke up expecting to feel different as she turned 16, but didnt feel anything.

Bobo is Tokunbo Alabi's nickname. He is the first guy to declare likeness for Aliya. However, his love can be regarded as an infatuation as it soon fades away. Aliya sees him with other girls he has probably proclaimed same love for and he eventually leaves for Ireland without saying a word to her about it.

When aliya turned 16, this time her father has send her a special present/gift. The principal brought out a gift box with a pinkisk wrap and a bright red ribbon that had a full multi-coloured bow on top of it. "Oh my God" Aliya exclaimed as she collected the box. Aliya quickly ran to her hostel as she couldn't wait to see what is inside the box. in the box, was a portable digital camera, a birthday card that said "Happy sweet sixteen" , and a spiral bound document.

Sweet Sixteen "A coming of Age Story" by Bolaji Abdullai

### **Possible Questions**

- [1] When did Aliya turned 16?
- [2] When did aliya read the book "Sweet 16" ?
- [3] When did aliya realised one no longer a child but young adult?
- [4] Why is aliya hated been called a child ?
- [5] At what age aliya stated wearing bras ?
- [6] Aliya mother & father was a ?
- [7] Where is aliya when she turns 16 ?
- [8] The thing aliya's father worth celebrating is ?
- [9] What changed when aliya left home ?
- [10] When did aliya turned 12
- [11] Her birthday card was handed over to who ?
- [12] Who is Akin ?
- [13] What day did Aliya turned 16
- [14] How many block of rooms is in aliya's hostel ?
- [15] How many of them were in each room ?
- [16] Who give Aliya a red teddy bear ?
- [17] Did aliya return the teddy bear ?
- [18] Where did Bobo and his parent relocated to ?
- [19] How old is aliya when she received a gift box ?

[20] What did aliya found in the gift box ?

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