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Subject: "Turning the Tide": Xolelwa Azania: Martinez
Date: Monday, January 1, 1900 12:00:00 AM

Hello again, Seniors!

For this week (5/18-5/22), one of your assigned tasks is to read "Turning the Tide". The first survivor story in that pack is by Xolelwa Azania. This character's story is probably the most confusing of all of the ones we'll look at. I'm going to offer a bit of guidance here.

1. Xolelwa Azania has a unique connection to another character by the name of Paul Redeker. He's the one whom this story is actually focused on. (When I say "unique connection", make sure you read, carefully, the last paragraph of the story.)
2. As the narrator, Azania talks about Paul Redeker's involvement in Apartheid. Here's some quick info on Apartheid:
 - Apartheid was essentially racial segregation that took place in South and South West Africa from 1948-the early 1990s.
 - It began when European immigrants with white supremacist ideals came to Africa.
 - The white immigrant minority ensured their social, political, and economic domination for decades.
 - Nelson Mandela, Nobel Peace Prize winner, was arrested multiple times for his activism against Apartheid. He was the eventual political figure that helped lead South Africa out of this segregation. He was well-known for many things, including his joyous smile.
 - There continue to be many impactful, lingering effects of Apartheid that impact many people in South Africa today.
3. Azania brings up (but Max Brooks doesn't explain) the term "Afrikaner". This term referred to white African natives. Though they were not part of the immigrants that came from Europe, they were part of the Apartheid ruling class because they were white.
4. Paul Redeker's involvement in Apartheid was the "Orange 84" plan. The Afrikaner's needed a plan in case the black native population (which had more numbers than the white minority leadership) revolted and tried to overthrow the government. Paul Redeker (dispassionate, lacking compassion) gave them that plan.
5. When the zombies threatened to overtake South Africa, the government knew Redeker would have a plan for dealing with the threat. So they brought him in and asked him for his Redeker plan so that they could survive the zombies. It should be surprising that they would ask Redeker for his plan, since he's the one that helped the white Apartheid government in the 1980s and the new government is? not the same white Apartheid government that was there in 1984.

*These are all details that should help you understand the story with some background and context information. This should also help you do the Morality survey for this story pack. If you still have questions or are confused by the story, add a reply to this announcement! Enjoy!



