

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS - MUNYURANGABO

1. All of the actors in this film are non-professionals and much of their dialogue is improvised. How do you think this story benefits from the use of non-professional actors? What would be the benefits, if any, of casting professionals instead?
2. In what ways does this film blur the line between fiction and nonfiction? Which scenes, in particular, seemed very real? Which seemed more fictional?
3. What do you think draws Munyurangabo and Sangwa together? How are their characters similar? How are they different?
4. When Munyurangabo explains to Sangwa why he must kill the man that killed his father, he says: "This is a duty." Do you agree with this? Do you think there is a difference between this "duty" and revenge?
5. Discuss the poem at the end. Why would the filmmakers choose to include this poem at that point in Munyurangabo's journey?
6. This film was produced as a project for a class of fifteen Rwandan students, some of whom were orphans of genocide or returned refugees. In what ways do you think making a film is beneficial to the education and development of young people?
7. An alternate title for the film is "Liberation Day." What do you think is the significance of this title? Which title do you prefer?
8. Director Lee Isaac Chung is the American son of Korean immigrants. Do you think his position as a first generation American provides him with an outsider's perspective that is apparent in his filmmaking?