CRY THE BELOVED COUNTRY CHAPTER 11

### Summary — Chapter 11

Msimangu persuades Kumalo to take a few days’ rest while Msimangu goes to Ezenzeleni, a colony for the blind. Kumalo and Msimangu then enjoy a quiet evening at the Mission House with Father Vincent, who listens to Kumalo’s stories of Natal and tells them about his native England. The tranquil evening is shattered, however, when another priest enters with a newspaper whose front page announces the murder of Arthur Jarvis, a white engineer and crusader for the rights of black South Africans. Jarvis, the paper reports, was at home with a cold when intruders knocked out his servant and shot him at close range. The paper states that there are no leads, but police hope the unconscious servant will be able to furnish some information upon awakening. The paper also states that Jarvis was in the midst of writing his treatise on “The Truth About Native Crime” when he was murdered. The article closes by saying that Jarvis leaves behind a widow and two children—a nine-year-old son and a five-year-old daughter.

Kumalo remembers seeing Arthur as a boy, small and bright, with his father—the Jarvis farm overlooks Ndotsheni. He is weighed down by a sudden, inexplicable fear. Msimangu tries to reassure him that the odds of any connection between Absalom and the murder are small, but Kumalo is inconsolable and too tired even to pray.

**What happens in Chapter 11 and who is involved?**

• Msimangu has to hold a service to the blind at a nearby Mission House.

• That night at the Mission House, Kumalo hears the news that a well-known and respected white engineer, Arthur Jarvis, has been shot in his home.

• Three black men broke into Jarvis’s house and attacked and injured the servant.

 • The police are hoping that when the servant regains consciousness, he may be able to give evidence about the identity of the murderers.

• Jarvis surprised the burglars when he came to investigate the noise that was made by them.

• Jarvis was working on a manuscript called “The Truth about Native Crime,” the night he was killed.

• Kumalo is worried that Absalom could be involved in the murder of Arthur Jarvis.