



Informal female mentorship in Fatou Diome's *Celles qui attendent* (Women Who Wait)

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Abstract: This chapter explores informal female mentorship in Fatou Diome's 2010 novel *Celles qui attendent* (*Women Who Wait*). The novel's protagonists attempt to better their circumstances by developing their own codes of female mentorship in a context far removed from orthodox mentoring settings. Informal mentor-mentee partnerships between friends and family members ultimately redefine intellectual and emotional growth whilst underscoring the important role that context plays in mentorship expression.

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