

ACROSS A HUNDRED MOUNTAINS

Reyna Grande - Lesson #3

INTO-PREPARING THE LEARNER

INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY?

Reflect on the image projected and think of the events that led up to Lupe's arrest and imprisonment.



If Juana's mother, Lupe, was in a position to be put on trial for murder, what statements or facts would the defending and prosecuting attorneys use to defend or convict her.

Defense Attorney	Prosecuting Attorney

In reality, would justice be served in the criminal case against Lupe? Write your prediction of the outcome in one paragraph.

DRTA – DIRECTED READING THINKING ACTIVITY

Look at each sentence one at a time. Predict what you think this passage is about based on the evidence revealed. Do your predictions match with the evidence?

When she finally got to the other side, it was the bright light she had to adjust to. She kept her eyes closed for a few seconds until they stopped hurting. When she opened her eyes, Roberto, Pancho, and the coyote were sitting on the ground, staring at her. Three gringos dressed in green uniforms stood behind them.

“How many more are there?” one of them asked the coyote.

“Three,” the coyote said.

Juana turned around and dove back into the tunnel. (p. 218-219)

ANTICIPATORY GUIDE

Agree/Disagree

1. Hiring a good coyote is the only means to safely cross the border without documents into the U.S. from Mexico.
2. It's easier to forgive others than to forgive yourself.
3. For the most part, people are good Samaritans who chose to help another before helping themselves.
4. Justice can only be served when the perpetrator has been punished.
5. The truth is always the strongest argument.

WHO SAID IT?

Adelina, Diana, Don Ernesto, Doña Matilde, Lupe, Juana

1. What do you know about pain? You don't know what it's like to be responsible for a child's death. You don't know what it's like for me when night comes, when my body yearns for rest and my guilty conscience can't let it sleep. (Diana, P. 221)
2. One day he'll change. He'll be like he used to be when we first met. I know he loves me. And I know one day he'll change. (Adelina, P. 190)
3. My husband is in El Otro Lado. Soon he will come back. He told me so. Soon we will be together. (Lupe, P. 233)
4. He brought a white rosary made with heart-shaped beads. (Juana, P. 186)
5. You know exactly what I mean. I know who you are. You've been gone for years, and now you've come back to try to take my son away from me. (Doña Matilde, P. 230)
6. Love is hard to find. You must not let it go. Don't waste your youth searching for a ghost. (Don Ernesto, P. 157)

THROUGH-WORKING WITH THE TEXT

DOUBLE ENTRY JOURNAL

While reading, record words, phrases, lines or direct quotes from the text on the left side of a double-column journal page. On the right side respond to the selected text: ask a question about a character or event; make a personal connection with a character or event; speculate about the outcome of a situation; analyze the text; comment on the language or word choice of a text; or evaluate or comment on the significance of the text.

DIRECTED READING WITH NUMBERED HEADS & DIALOGUE READING

Adelina, p. 156-157

Dialogue Reading: *Narrator, Adelina, Don Ernesto*

1. How was Don Ernesto like Juana's adoptive father?

Juana, p. 158-161

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads

2. What acts of human kindness did Juana experience on the bus? (p. 158-160)
3. Explain the following quote: "But her memory of him was like smoke." (p. 161)

Adelina, p. 162-166

Dialogue Reading: *Narrator, Adelina, Detective Gonzalez, Señora Gloria, Miguel García*

4. What sequence of events took place for Adelina to possibly find and meet her father?

Juana, p. 167-170

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads

5. How was Juana a victim of mistaken identity? What happened as a result?

Adelina, p. 171-172

Dialogue Reading: *Narrator, Adelina, Detective Gonzalez, Señora Gloria, Miguel García*

6. What did Miguel and Adelina want from each other?

Juana, p. 173-179

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads

7. How do you believe that Juana's new friendship with Adelina will change her life? Explain.

Adelina, p. 180-183

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads and Dialogue Reading:
Narrator, Adelina, man on bus, young man

8. What effect do you believe this young man will have on Adelina's life?

Juana, p. 184-186

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads

9. What other choices did Juana have to find her father? Explain.

Adelina, p. 187

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads

10. What feelings surface for Adelina as she gets closer to seeing her mother? Explain.

Juana, p. 188-195

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads

11. How has Adelina become a prisoner? What could Juana do to free her? (p. 188-191)
12. Why did Juana believe that the man with the film over his left eye would be able to help her? (p. 191-193)
13. Why was Juana's birthday wish significant to both girls? (p. 193-195)

Adelina, p. 196-200

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads

14. How was Sebastian's family so different from her own?

Juana, p. 201-219

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads

15. Why did Juana decide that she had to go to El Otro Lado? (p. 204)
16. How did she try to convince Adelina to go with her?
17. Describe the sequence of events that led up to Juana's crossing over to El Otro Lado. Did she ever have a chance of making it across safely? Why or why not? (p. 206-219)

Adelina, p. 220-221

Dialogue Reading: *Narrator, Diana, Adelina*

18. Who is Adelina? How do you know?

Juana, p. 222-224

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads

19. How was Juana's life forever going to change from this point on?

Adelina, p. 225-255

Dialogue Reading: *Narrator, Sandra, Adelina*

20. What part of Juana is forever gone? Which parts remain? (p. 225-227)
21. What would you have done in Juana's place? Would you have identified yourself and told your brother the truth? Explain. (p. 228-230)

Directed Reading with Numbered Heads

22. In what condition did Juana find her mother? Was there any hope? (p. 231-234)
23. What is the one gift that Juana can bring to her mother? (p. 235)

Dialogue Redding: *Narrator, Sandra, Adelina/Juana, José Alberto, Lupe*

24. How does the truth set them free in the end? What sequence of events led to the truth?
25. How would you describe José Alberto?
26. What is the symbolic act that the reunited sister and brother do to allow their parents to rest in peace?

REVISIT THE ANTICIPATORY GUIDE

BEYOND-EXTENDING THE LEARNING

WRITING BEYOND THE TEXT – IDENTITY THEFT

“Duality is a predominant theme in this book” (p. 261). When did you as a reader realize that Juana and Adelina were the same person? What experiences caused Juana to assume Adelina's identity. Write an essay to defend Juana's position and to answer the question.

WRITING BEYOND THE TEXT – LOST DENSITY

Trace the story of Adelina from the beginning of the story to the end. What do you learn about the life of Adelina? By having her identity stolen by Juana, do you believe that there was any closure to her life? What moral dilemma do you grapple with as the reader? You may use Juana's quote as a way to begin: “Adelina died a long time ago. Maybe it's time to let her rest.” (p. 226)

BEYOND THE CHARACTER

Author Reyna Grande has created vivid and memorable characters in her novel. Choose two characters to compare and contrast – Adelina, Juana, Lupe, Miguel,

Don Elías, Doña Matilde, Antonia, Abuelita Elena, Don Ernesto, Sebastian, Gerardo, Sandra and José Alberto. Chose one written task and one artistic/creative task to complete for each of the two characters you choose.

You may...

- create a graphic organizer to compare and contrast their lives.
- create images of what you believe they physically look like.
- find images in magazines, articles, or on the internet that match your perception of what they look like
- use symbols, words, quotes and figurative language to describe them
- create a continuing story of their lives if they are still living at the end of this novel
- create a poem (acrostic, cinquain, I am) for each character
- create a project of your own choice

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