



The river

- What do Esperanza and Miguel fight about on pages 220–224?
- What does Miguel mean when he says he was a *second-class citizen* in Mexico? (page 222)
- What does Esperanza mean when she says she wants Miguel to *confront* his boss? (page 222)
- Why did Miguel call Esperanza a queen? (pages 224 and 18)

The blanket

- On page 224, what does Esperanza try to explain to Miguel about her life?
- At the top of page 224, what might the word *prophecy* mean? How might you figure this out?
- On pages 243–247, the author repeats phrases about *stitches* up the mountain and down the valley. What is the actual definition of a *stitch*? What is the other meaning in this passage?

The heartbeat

- On page 248, where do Esperanza and Miguel go?
- What happens while they are there, and why is this important? What message might the author be trying to give readers?

The rose

- Why do Papa’s roses matter so much to Esperanza? (page 225)

Grapes/harvest

- At the bottom of page 246 through page 247, the author describes the grapes. What are the grapes a metaphor for? How do you know?
- What did Papa mean when he told Esperanza, “Wait a little while and the fruit will fall into your hands”? (pages 2 and 223)