

Name: _____

Date: _____

READING GUIDE: CHAPTER 9

Enrique's Journey

Directions: Complete the questions below by answering with complete and thorough eighth-grade responses! Use evidence from the text when appropriate.

1. As Enrique and Lourdes argue at the beginning of this chapter, they speak about blame. Who does Enrique blame for his lack of success in life? Who does Lourdes blame? Why do neither one of them accept the blame for Enrique's hardships in life?

2. In this chapter, Enrique begins to "act out" again. What are his reasons for his actions this time? How do his behaviors compare with those from when he rebelled in Honduras?

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3. What realization does Enrique finally come to regarding his mother and her leaving him? How does his acceptance of this fact allow their relationship to begin to heal?

4. At the end of this chapter, Maria Isabel leaves Honduras for the U.S. How is her departure similar to when Lourdes left Enrique? How is it different?

Discussion Question: Lourdes left to make a better life for Enrique. Maria Isabel left to make a better life for Jasmin. Do you think this cycle of leaving will end with Maria Isabel? Do you think she and Enrique will return just as they have promised? Why or why not?

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