

*Esperanza Rising*  
By: Pam Munoz Ryan

Characters

1. **Esperanza** – A young Mexican girl about to turn 13
2. **Ramona & Sixto Ortega**- Esperanza's parents
3. **Abuelita**- Esperanza's beloved grandmother and Ramona's mother.
4. **Hortensia**- The housekeeper in Mexico - Alonso's wife- Miguel's mom
5. **Alfonso**- The boss of the field workers in Mexico who shared a love of the land with Sixto
6. **Miguel**- Hortensia and Alfonso's 16 year old son who grew with Esperanza and had the patience to fix anything.
7. **Tio Luis**- Papa's older stepbrother – the bank president who proposes marriage to Esperanza's mother.
8. **Tio Marco**- Papas older stepbrother – The Mayor
9. **Senior Rodriguez**- The kind neighboring rancher who raised fruit
10. **Marisol Rodriguez**- Esperanza's best friend in Mexico
11. **Juan** – Alfonso's brother who helps bring them to the United States and finds them work and a place to live
12. **Josefina**- Juan's wife
13. **Isabel**- Juan and Josefina's daughter who is about 8 and lives with and helps teach Esperanza many things.
14. **Pepe and Lupe**- The almost 1 year old twins of Juan & Josefina who Esperanza learns to take care of.
15. **Marta**- High spirited girl who works in the fields and organizes strikes- Esperanza and her do not get off to a good start.
16. **Mr. Yakota**- The grocer who was getting rich on other peoples bad manners.

Questions

1. What was the name of the place where Esperanza's family lived and worked?  
**El Rancho de las Rosas**
2. What was the name of the town where it is located? **Aguascalientes**
3. How did Esperanza's father tell her she can feel the earth? **When she is still and quiet**  
**And wait awhile and the fruit will fall into your hand.**  
When Esperanza and her friends were together they talked about only one thing- What was it? **Their Quinceanras or their presentation parties**
4. What significant event was to take place the after her dad died? **Esperanza's 13<sup>th</sup> Birthday**
5. How did Esperanza's father die? **He was killed in an ambush while mending the fence.**
6. What activity did the women do to take their minds off worry? **Crochet**
7. What did Esperanza tell Miguel while they were in Mexico that strained their relationship?  
**That since she was a ranch owners daughter and he was a housekeepers son and between them ran a deep river and it could never be crossed.**
8. How did they escape from Mexico? **By hiding in the bottom of a wagon covered with fruit.**
9. What one special possession did Esperanza bring in her Valise? **The last doll her dad gave her.**
10. Who did she give it to and why. **Isabel after she did not get to be the Queen of May**
11. What happened to their ranch? **The stepbrothers burned it down to force Ramona to marry them.**
12. Where did they move to in the US? **San Jauquin Valley in California**
13. Where did Abuelita go to recuperate when the other left for the US? **With her sisters in the convent.**
14. What significant possession from Mexico did Miguel & Alfonso bring with them? **Papas Roses.**
15. What did Abuelita give to Esperanza before she left? **Her crocheting and made her promise to take care of Mama.**
16. What did Esperanza give the girl on the train after she was rude to her and would not let her see her doll? **Her and mama made her a rag doll.**
17. What did the women Carmen on the train give to Ramona? **2 chickens**
18. What was significant about Carmen? **Although she was poor she was rich**
19. What choice did Mama give Esperanza? **They could be miserable together in Mexico or they can be happy together in the US.**
20. What was Esperanza first job in California that Miguel had to show her how to do? **Sweep the platform.**
21. Why did Esperanza have such a hard time adjusting to life in the US? **She was used to being a princess not a pauper.**
22. What promise did Isabel and Esperanza make to each other? **Esperanza promised to tell Isabel about the wonderful life she used to have if Isabel would teach her how to pin diapers, wash etc.**
23. What did Isabel get at the fiesta? **A kitten named Chiquita.**
24. What natural disaster occurred and made Mama sick? **A dust storm.**
25. What happened to Mama? **She got Valley Fever, Then Pneumonia and spent a long time in the hospital very sick.**
26. What did Esperanza have to do because her Mama was sick? **She went to work in order to pay for the doctor and to bring money in since Mama could not work.**
27. What happened to the workers who went on strike? **They were sent back to Mexico.**
28. What did Esperanza put in her Valise to help bring back Abuelita ? **Money Orders.**
29. On the way back from the grocer what does Esperanza give to the poor children?  
**The piñata she was going to give her mom.**
30. Who does Esperanza help avoid getting caught during the strike? **Marta**

31. Who took Esperanza's money orders? **Miguel**
32. Why did he take them? **He went to go get Abuelita in Mexico because he thought Esperanza and her Mama needed her.**
33. What did Esperanza show Mama & Abuelita after they were reunited? **The almost finished very large blanket she had given her to crochet.**
34. What special surprise did she get on her birthday this year? **The men sang to her.**

*n what book.....*

In what book did Pam Munoz Ryan write?

In what book do a girl and her mother leave their beloved Mexico to move to the US?

In what book does a Father get killed in an ambush?

In what book does it show that you do not have to have money to be rich?

In what book did someone get Valley Fever?

In what book is a young girl forced to work in the fields when her Mama becomes ill?