

The Power of Storytelling



Characters in the novel, especially the girls' mother Laura, love to tell stories. Unlike straightforward facts, stories allow the listener to immerse him or herself in the life of an individual or a given moment, absorbing emotional information that would otherwise be lacking. Stories also reveal much about the storyteller. By structuring the novel as a series of stories about each character, sometimes with characters telling stories within stories, Alvarez conveys not only events in the García family's life, but also how the characters perceive or have been shaped by those events.

The chapter "The Four Girls" shows Laura in various settings, telling stories to diverse audiences. The chapter establishes her habit of storytelling and creates a communal history that binds those individuals into a family. Her stories also reveal her own values and attitudes.

Today is your chance to tell a story. Keep in mind this is a blog post. Do not share a story that you do not feel comfortable having other people read.

Story requirements:

- 1) At least two paragraphs in length.
- 2) Should include the following:
 - Setting (physical setting/emotional setting)
 - Reveal some of your own values and attitudes
 - Lesson learned (how has this shaped you into the person you are today?)
 - Resolution/Conclusion (is there one?)
 - Questions you still wonder/ponder about this incident (any?)

** If the story discuss something uncomfortable, do not include names of other students. Simple say a friend/person/etc.
- 3) One image to help capture your story.
- 4) Double check grammar and spelling :)

Due: By class period tomorrow, Sept. 25th.

Have fun with this!

If you finish early..

- Read and comment on other blogs (keep it positive!)
- Read the assigned reading for the week from Garcia Girls
- Check out the links below:
 - [Test Your Geography! Caribbean Islands](#)
 - [Language Tree](#)
 - [BBC- Interesting Facts About Languages](#)