

**Transcription of Literature Circle: The House on Mango Street,**

<http://quest.carnegiefoundation.org/%7Erahmed/eaguilar/video.htm>

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**Beginning of Transcription**

- Veronica: There's this part that says boys and girls live in their own separate worlds and I couldn't remember um the story The Giver – you know in The Giver they have there own special world.
- Chio: Which one do you like?
- Andria: I kind of like Boys and Girls. It's a good like section on and then I like the – the beginning was good.
- Chio: My favorite part was Louie, his cousin and his other cousin. It was when they play dress-up they go around the corner – and there's these construction worker guys starring at them and the store owner and they started yelling at them and saying they would call the police and get you all arrested and they ran through the back door so they wouldn't get caught by the mother.
- Walter: The best chapter in the book that we read was the first one which was The House on Mango Street, because I connect with it with how they move from place to place and I can relate to that because my cousin he is always moving with his family and then like he cant remember where he lived three houses from where he lived right now so he's be like ah man I have to be the new kid again in a new school in a new neighborhood.
- Henry: That's what happened to me. Because we kept on moving we moved from my Oakland to Modesto and back to Oakland and then to Tracy then back to Oakland then Hayward and then back to Oakland again. I also like the first one because it talks about real issues and when they are talking about the broom and stuff (other kids laugh in agreement).
- Veronica: Yeah and I like it because even in writing and if you have to move from house to house you really can connect to it. I had to move from house to house but m moving it's just sad.
- Henry: Where are you going to move to?
- Andria: To Modesto. I don't really know the feeling what's it like but I know other people who say it's hard because they don't really have people they know and so its hard on them.
- Chio: I can remember every place that we lived. Because we only moved four times so I can remember every memory of an exciting moment we had.
- Henry: Can you share any?
- Chio: No, it's personal.
- Veronica: Are there any passages you guys like from the book?
- Chio: There's this one on page four. It says that a window – that the windows are so small you'd think that there holding their breath you can imagine that, the window was so small.

Henry: It was so old they don't have water.

Walter: Something else that I liked about the book was it had a lot of characters in it and then it had that every person had their own section of the book. Um what's her name crazy cat lady – Kathy? And how I could connect it to one sentence like once I was watching it and then the kids were doing a report and then Lisa hey say is a crazy lady but she's really very sweet and everything and then lady comes out throwing cats at her - yeah I remember that.

Henry: Do you like how the story is written – like the chapter every two or three pages? Doesn't it get confusing to you?

Chio: Sometimes.

Vernoica: A little bit.

Hernry: Like there's a chapter – for everything they talk about there's a chapter.

Andria: Yeah I have to give – you have to reread to understand what there talking about.

Chio: In this part – he gives five dollars to be his friend forever.

Andria: Dang.

Chio: His only friend was Kathy.

Henry: Any other parts you guys like?

Andria: Most of the parts I like – some parts I get confused and I have to reread.

Veronica: Some of the italics parts of the book that are little poems are good.

Andria: Yeah.

Henry: Which page?

Vernica: 49. That's my favorite one.

Andria: I remember somebody saying this a long time ago – they used to play jump rope – or something. I remember that.

Walter: What's this word is it Spanish?

Veronica: Yeah. It's a dance of this other country.

Chio: This book is easy you can read through it fast.

Henry: Yeah.

Chio: It stops every now and then so you can actually understand it – it doesn't just run through it.

Henry: I think that's why there are so many chapters.

Teacher: Maybe you can talk about one of the stories. Maybe go to it and read some selections from it. You've been doing a great job. Everything you are doing is great. But maybe you can choose as Veronica suggests – maybe you can talk about whatever one you like or something.

Henry: Like do you agree here with what they are saying about how the girls and the boys live in separate worlds?

Vernonica: In a way yeah. Because boys like different things than we girls do and you guys act different than us.

Andria: And they say like we could connect - and you know how you guys do different thing than females do and you like are all different and so this brings out like this shows how everybody thinks – so you can connect to it.

Henry: What do you think (directed to Chio) about boys and girls living in different worlds?

Chio: Yeah.

Veronica: The fourth line says that – it's not the same – even though other guys look at you – they won't say anything and we play a lot of sports together.

Henry: Is that the macho thing? Not a macho but like the boy thing? There not supposed to talk to girls?

Walter: And then right here how it talks about how being younger and how you have that example and right here she says, that if she let - I think it was Kiki – play with her brothers that they will turn out like them – and if you hang out with them then you will turn like them. But it's really not like that because some people just stay the way they are just because they are hanging out with someone that...

Andria: Yeah it doesn't mean that you're going to turn out like that – it's your choice to turn out like that.

Walter: But somebody turn out like that and they don't even know.

Henry: Yeah because you're influenced to do things because your hanging around it but it's your choice to do it.

Henry: Well here this - when it says you don't just pick your sisters?

Andria: You don't get to pick who your sister is – it's your sister because your parents made it.

Andria: Or you could connect to that part by how that's your brother but you don't want to treat them that way.

Veronica: But it all depends on how they treat you because if they treat you one way then you're going to treat them that way.

Andria: Yeah, because sometimes they treat you nice in front of your parents and then like...

Veronica: Or up in your room...you better do this...

Andria: Or your parents are like you have more responsibility than them – you’re older and you shouldn’t act like that.

Henry: So what you guys are saying that if they treat you nice then you need to treat them nice too? What if they don’t treat you nice? Like you should treat them nice so that they treat you nice?

Andria: But if you’re younger and if you’re older –

Walter: Your parents expect more from you –

Andria: The younger one can do really what they want to do but the older one has to show the right thing and.

Chio: Be mature...

Andria: Yeah, be mature.

Henry: Going back to the first story what exactly happened?

Walter: Back to the first chapter?

Henry: Yeah.

Walter: The thing I really like about it is it explains it, it’s specific in details about how she felt and every time she moved and it makes it seem funny at the same time. Because she is like I can’t ever remember the house that I’ve been with, it’s funny.

Henry: You think it’s like that because it’s the first page of the book so it has to be good.

Veronica: There’s this part where I think um...um I think she was a nun...a religious...

Chio: No she met a nun.

Veronica: Yeah, a nun, then she looks up to the house and she’s like, “do you live there?”, as if there is something wrong with that.

Chio: Yeah, it’s broken down.

Andria: I’d be embarrassed if I lived in it and your house was always ganky – and somebody’s was like, “is that your house?” and I’d be like, “yeah”.

Henry: They don’t have very much money.

Walter: That’s something people should learn is, be who you are, don’t be ashamed for what you have in life because it’s like if you like it.

Veronica: But other people should learn how to respect you and respect what you have.

Walter: Yeah that’s true, and not criticize you.

Andria: Sometimes you see things that you like, so you want your house to be different like that. And other people see it, so that's how people see their houses to be and so you want it and feel kind of bad.

Chio: You see a mansion or something.

Andria: Yeah and you say – ooh I want that house.

Henry: Anything else you want to say about the book?

Chio: Any other chapters?

Veronica: What about My Name?

Walter: Yeah I could connect to that because I really don't like my name. But I call it Liquidy because it represents me. It represents me. It represents me.

Andria: Your parents named it because a reason because they liked it so you end up having to have it.

Henry: Does everybody like their name?

Andria: Sometimes because – well yeah – people confuse it with Andrea, cause my cousins name is Andrea.

Veronica: My mom sometimes when she's talking to me she says, "Carla", and I'm like, "I'm not Carla", and she's like, "oh my bad".

Henry: My mom doesn't call me my name, she calls me Enrique, I don't know why. Right here it says at school they same my name funny, I think a lot of people feel that way.

Andria: Yeah sometimes they say your name and you're like my name is not that.

Henry: So you could really connect to that.

Andria: Yeah because you know how when a substitute comes in and they say your whole name and they say like Andrea Sterling and then you say it right and they say sorry.

Chio: They live in Texas.

Henry: He lives in Texas?

Chio: Lucy's from Texas.

Henry: Where do they live?

Chio: In Texas.

Henry: From the way they describe their house I thought it was L.A. at first because I don't know why.

Chio: Yeah you can't too much noise or the landlord will kick you out.

- Andria: My aunt –the people in her apartment – it would be one or two in the morning and they'd yell out of the room.
- Walter: I can relate to that – because my grandmother lived on the top floor and when we would be making noise and then they be banging on the ceiling.
- Veronica: Even if you do live in a regular house, one story and you have the music really loud the neighbors get yelling – or if they call the police.
- Andria: Yeah like the old people in my neighborhood - we need to turn the music off. Because they would call the police cause it's their bed time.
- Andria: Anything else you guys want to talk about?
- Chio: Page 37 says everybody's names, they're calling each other names Chicken Liver

**End of Transcription**