



Mañanaland

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Tome Society It List Discussion Guide



Pre-reading questions

1. Max's grandfather, Buelo, gives him some very important information through the form of storytelling. Do some research on the tradition of storytelling, specifically in Latin American cultures. What did you find?
2. Soccer, or futbol, is a big part of Max's life. Do some research on futbol and Latin America. What is different about futbol in Latin America and in the United States?
3. The story takes place at an unspecified time and in a vague location. Based on the cover, what are your guesses about the time period and location in which the story takes place?

Post-reading questions (6-8)

1. Max's dad tell him to "stand firmly in the reality of today or life will only disappoint you tomorrow." Do you agree or disagree with this advice?
2. Max wants to follow in the footsteps of his dad and grandfather and play the goalie position for the village soccer team. Is there anyone in your life that you want to follow in the footsteps of? What do they do that you admire and want to emulate?
3. Max gets upset with Chuy for not defending his family to Ortiz. Do you think the things Max said to Chuy were fair? (p. 103) What do you think Max was feeling after this interaction?
4. Ortiz says that the Guardians are criminals. Do you agree or disagree with this perspective? Why?
5. ****Spoiler alert**** Max helps a girl who needs to stay hidden and travel to a safe place. When Father Romero comes to ask for help, he is really looking for Papa or Buelo. Do you think Max made the right choice to help Isadora? What do you think you would have done in his position?
6. Yadra tells Max, "Mañanaland is not a destination. It's a...way of thinking." Talk about "Mañanaland" as an idea. How do you think the hope of "Mañanaland" helped Los Escondidos along their journey?
7. ****Spoiler alert**** Max makes the choice for he and Isadora to jump off the bridge to run from the police. Do you think this was a good choice? How else could he have handled the situation?
8. Why do you think the author divided the sections of the book into "Yesterday," "Today," and "Tomorrow"? What is the significance of these titles?

Post-reading activities

1. The Guardians hid their routes and hiding spaces in a map. Create a piece of fan art depicting the map that Max and his family use as Guardians. Follow the guidelines at tomesociety.org/competitions to enter it into the Fan Art competition.
2. The Guardians use a specific system to protect them and the Escondidos. This system includes each Guardian only knowing their leg of the journey. Choose something to hide in your school, and create a route to hide it. Work as a team to make sure that each Guardian only knows their portion of the journey, but the object still gets to its final hiding place.

More About This Book

Publisher's Discussion Guide:

<https://www.scholastic.com/content/dam/teachers/lesson-plans/19-20/mananaland-discussion-guide.pdf>

Official Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/lWEfioyVTtw>

Author's Website: <https://www.pammunozryan.com/>