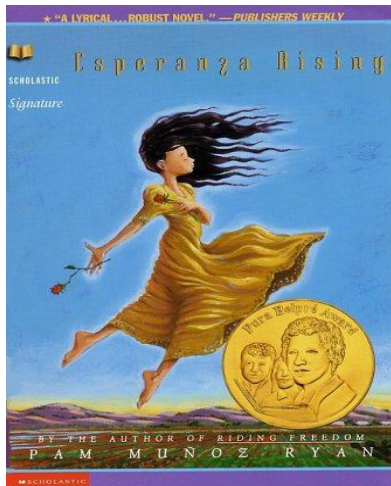


Esperanza Rising

By: Pam Munoz Ryan



"She listened again, but the heartbeat was not there. She tried one more time, desperately wanting to hear it. But there was no reassuring thump repeating itself. No sound of the earth's heartbeat. Or Papa's....."page 91.

This book review was created by students in Mrs. Brochu's reading class.

Esperanza, a rich girl in Mexico, thinks nothing bad will ever happen to her until family tragedies come into her life. She then escapes to Los Angeles, California, to work in a Mexican camp. When her mother falls ill, she struggles to take care of her friends and family. Will she ever hear the earth's heartbeat again, or will it be lost forever?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Student Recommendations

★ ★ ★ ★ This realistic fiction novel is a mix of happiness and sorrow about a Mexican girl named Esperanza. It makes your eyes water, but keeps you on the edge of your seat with all the drama of her friends and family. The author's events made the book an emotional roller-coaster. I recommend this book for eleven and twelve-year-olds.

★ ★ ★ ★ This is a realistic fiction novel that is hard to put down once you get into it. I would definitely read another book by the same author because I like how she describes the events so that it makes you feel like you are really there. I would recommend this book for ages 11-12. It is a good book if you like happy and sad events mixed together in a great story.

★ ★ ★ ★ In this book, the events in Esperanza's life come one after another. So if you don't like to wait, this would be a good book for you. But if you are going to read the book, I'll warn you right now that some events aren't very joyful. I would recommend this book for fifth and sixth graders because of the events that happen in the story. I would read a book by this author again because I liked how the characters had so much feeling and the events were surprising and suspenseful.