

The House of the Scorpion

(La Vida Nueva)

Chapter 26: The Lost Boys

1. Where does Matt get sent after crossing the border? (Pgs. 262-263, 268)

Chapter 27: A Five Legged Horse

1. What are The Keepers? (Pg. 269)
2. What determines who and how much food you get at the orphanage? (Pg. 270)
3. How did Matt upset Raúl? (Pg. 275)
4. What is a *crot*? (Pg. 276)

Chapter 28: The Plankton Factory

1. What do the boys eat at the factory? (Pg. 283)
2. What happened to the whales in the Gulf of California? (Pg. 283)
3. Where do Matt, Fidelito, and Chacho get sent to work? (Pg. 284)

Chapter 29: Washing a Dusty Mind

1. What is the purpose of self-criticism? (Pg. 291-292)
2. What is Jorge's job specifically? Why are the stories important? (Pg. 289)
3. What is the name of the boy with terrible acne? (Pg. 293)

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Chapter 30: When the Whales Lost Their Legs

1. What is the real reason Jorge punishes Ton-Ton? (Pgs. 300-301)
2. What does Matt do that earns him the respect of the other boys at the orphanage? (Pg. 305)

Chapter 31: Ton-Ton

1. Why was Matt interested to find out The Keepers took Laudanum? (Pg. 309)
2. What surprised Matt when he looked in the mirror? What caused this? (Pg.310)

Chapter 32: Found Out

1. Why does Jorge punish Fidelito instead of Matt? (Pg. 318)
2. Why does Matt attack Jorge? (Pg. 319)
3. What did Luna in the infirmary find out about Matt? (Pg. 321)

Chapter 33: The Boneyard

1. How are Matt and Chacho punished? (Pg. 326)
2. What creature made its home in the whale bones? (Pg. 328)

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Chapter 34: The Shrimp Harvester

1. How does Ton-Ton rescue Chacho from the pit? (Pg. 337)
2. Where does Ton-Ton decide to go after rescuing Matt and Chacho? How would they get there? (Pg. 337)

Chapter 35: El Dia de los Muertos

1. What ailment does the polluted river cause in Matt? How is he rescued? (Pg. 348)
2. What is El Dia De Los Muertos? (Pg. 349)
3. What do Guapo and Consuela give Matt and Fidelito to hide from The Keepers? (Pg. 352)

Chapter 36: The Castle on the Hill

1. Who tries to take Chacho at the convent? Who stops them? (Pg. 360)
2. Who finds Matt at the end of Ch. 36? (Pg. 362)

Chapter 37: Homecoming

1. What is happening in Opium? (Pg. 365)
2. What do the Esperanzas want Matt to do? (Pgs. 365-366)
3. Who is the new master of Opium? Why? (Pg. 367)
4. Who does Matt see while he is playing the piano at the Alacrans? (Pg. 371)

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Chapter 38: The House of Eternity

1. Describe in detail the events of El Patron's wake. (Pgs. 375-376)
2. Why didn't Tam Lin save himself from these events? (Pg. 377)
3. What is Matt's mission at the end of the book? (Pg. 380)
4. What was your overall impression of the book? What did you like? Dislike? Would you recommend this book to others?