

The Tragic Story of Geraldo in Sandra Cisneros' *The House on Mango Street*

In Sandra Cisneros' *The House on Mango Street*, Esperanza recounts the story she hears from Marin about Geraldo, an undocumented immigrant with no identification who is killed in a hit-and-run accident. Carefully read the following excerpts and provide commentary on how Cisneros' shifting tones and points of view potentially serve as an "illuminating incident" that helps her convey "the meaning of the work as a whole."

Thesis
Concrete Detail: <p>Only Marin can't explain why it mattered, the hours and hours, for somebody she didn't even know. The hospital emergency room. Nobody but an intern working all alone. And maybe if the surgeon would've come, maybe if he hadn't lost so much blood, if the surgeon had only come, they would know who to notify and where. (66)</p>
Commentary:

Antithesis
Concrete Detail: <p>But what difference does it make? He wasn't anything to her. He wasn't her boyfriend or anything like that. Just another <i>brazier</i> who didn't speak English. Just another wetback. You know the kind. The ones who always look ashamed. And what was she doing out at three a.m. anyway? (66)</p>
Commentary:

Synthesis
Concrete Detail: <p>They never saw the kitchenettes [. . .] the weekly money orders sent home, the currency exchange. How could they? His name was Geraldo. And his home is in another country. The ones he left behind are far away, will wonder, shrug, remember. Geraldo—he went north . . . we never heard from him again. (66)</p>
Commentary: