

Esperanza Rising
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Close your eyes.

Picture El Rancho de las Rosas in Mexico. It's an August afternoon in a beautiful valley filled with leafy green vines with grapes almost ready to drop. A short walk takes you to the main house filled with servants in long white aprons. See Esperanza, a young girl, daydreaming about the bouquets of roses, the papayas, and the baskets of grapes that adorn the tables as she dreams of all the presents she would receive at her birthday party the next day.

Open your eyes because the dream is over.

Esperanza's father is dead. Esperanza and her mother are robbed of their fortune by greedy family members. She and her mother are forced to move to California where they must start over and find jobs as Mexican farm workers. Hard work, financial trouble and illness threatens them. How will Esperanza survive?