

Anonymous

School: Valencia High

Grade: Freshman

Book Title: The House on Mango Street

Book Author: Sandra Cisneros

Rating: 4

*The House on Mango Street* is told through short vignettes from the perspective of Esperanza and how a young girl like her grows up in a neighborhood that her and her family moved into. Instead of one continuous story, the book gives small moments into her life, family, and the people that surround her. Through these moments Esperanza begins to understand more about herself as a person and the world she lives in. From the start it feels that she does not feel like she belongs, and she dreams of something more, perhaps a better house.

The book was definitely different from most stories I have read. I liked how it was written in short sections because it was easier to read but the story was a little confusing as the vignettes showed a story that was all over the place. Esperanza was a relatable character because she felt unsure about where she fit in which made her possibly feel a connection with the reader. Some parts of the book were a little emotional as it showed struggles people may not always talk about. At the same time the chapters were somewhat short so it felt like things ended too quickly when I wanted to learn more about what was going to continue. Although the writing was simple but powerful which made moments stand out in the story.

I would recommend this book to readers who like personal stories that are simple and have heartfelt experiences rather than big events. It's a quick read through the vignettes but it still makes you think about who you are as a person. It might not be for everyone but if readers that like books that are focused on feeling and real life experiences, it's a book worth reading.