

Clap When you Land by Elizabeth Acevedo
Study Guide by Marilyn Ramirez
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1. How does the setting play a role in the story? Consider both the setting of Morningside Heights in New York City and Sosua in the Dominican Republic.
2. What effect does the line spacing create?
3. How is Tia Solana depicted? Do her attributes symbolize Dominican women?
4. How did Tia Solana help Camino define her purpose in life?
5. Tia Solana is the town's curandera while Camino wants to be a medical doctor. Why do you think Acevedo chose these professions/vocations for them?
6. Read page 11, what mood does this create? What stands out that supports this mood?
7. Compare and Contrast Camino and Yahaira. What are their personality traits and qualities? How are their lives different and how are they similar?
8. How is Papi characterized? Do you know men like him? How do we feel about them?
9. Think about the structure of the book and the two narrators. What did Acevedo do for the reader by going back and forth between Sosua and New York City?
10. Compare and contrast the ways in which Camino and Yahaira receive and process the information about their father's death.
11. How can we contextualize the fact that the father had two families? Who was complicit in this? How did he navigate his families in two different countries?
12. How did the need of "the other" family impact the girls?
13. What does it mean to navigate a complicated family?
14. Do you think that Yahaira and Camino were able to forgive each other and forgive themselves for their father's sins?
15. How did they mourn shame?
16. Tia Solana and Mami have some history but how were they able to hold themselves to heal?
17. Who is el Cero? What is symbolic of in the Dominican Republic?
18. Page 157. How are women regarded in Sosua? Do you think this is an accurate depiction? Why or why not?
19. Camino's friend Carline is Haitian. How is she portrayed. What does she endure in the Dominican Republic? How does this describe Haitian and Dominican Relations in a larger context?
20. Are women portrayed as powerful or powerless in the book? Use textual evidence to support your argument.
21. On page 218 Yahaira's mom says she wished she stopped loving Yano a long time ago - Why do you think even though she felt shame in both herself and from her family, she couldn't move on when she learned of his infidelity?
22. On page 401 Camino is getting ready to leave for New York. What is her mood here? Do you think Acevedo captures a general feeling from migrating? Explain.
23. How does Acevedo develop the following themes in the book:

- a. Home and leaving home
- b. Sex tourism
- c. Lesbian
- d. Grief
- e. Remesas
- f. Immigration
- g. Identity
- h. Intergenerational relationships
- i. Dominican Haitian relationship

For further research and to deepen your understanding of the story, consider the following resources

Sosua

Research on Sosua (must create a free account)

Brennan, Denise. Women Work, Men Sponge, and Everyone Gossips: Macho Men and Stigmatized/ing Women in a Sex Tourist Town

https://www.jstor.org/stable/4150854?newaccount=true&read-now=1&socuid=46534751-a700-423f-a32c-152b91e69b91&socplat=email#page_scan_tab_contents

Flight 587

[New York Times Coverage](#)

[Baruch College Data](#)

[National Geographic Flight 587 Investigation](#)