Enrique’s Journey Community Reader’s Guide
Chapters: “Epilogue,” “Afterword,” “Notes”
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Readers, please direct questions and comments to jennifer.cooley@uni.edu. I’d really like your feedback about the book and about your experiences in the reading group. Just a short note is fine!

Week 5
Introductions. New Participants and Group Leaders. What is your name and, if you’d like to, tell us any of the items below...
- Where are you from?
- Why did you decide to be a part of this study group?
- Have you ever been part of a study group in the past?

Pre-Reading.
In these sections of the book, Nazario will discuss several immigration policies and practices that have a decisive impact on Enrique and his family, and many other families throughout the U.S. Do you have any knowledge of immigration law? Do you have any sense of how U.S. immigration policies compare to those of other industrialized nations? Do you know much about practices surrounding refugees? Are there current debates you have heard about?

Epilogue.
1. What do you think of Enrique’s “two promises?” Which of the two proves harder to keep? Why do you think that is the case?
2. Thinking about the crimes that occur in Enrique’s apartment complex somewhere near Orlando, FL, how are they similar to the robberies and abuse that takes place along migration routes through Mexico? What factors are similar and different here?
3. How do María Isabel and Lourdes react to Enrique’s problems? How do his actions impact them? Would it be possible to explain the tension in this family as a result of immigration? What other factors are in play?
4. Do you think that it is okay for the author to work in the role of an advocate for Enrique? Why or why not?
5. Do you think that the jail sentence Enrique suffers is justified? Do you think it serves a meaningful purpose?
6. Do you think the U visa will have a positive impact on this family? Does it seem like a sensible policy?
7. Do you predict a bright future for Enrique and his family? Why or why not?

Final Reflections.
1. At the beginning of this section, Nazario includes some data to bring the book up to date. What data do you find most surprising about
   a) The risks to migrants
   b) The numbers and types of people migrating between Central America, Mexico and the U.S.
   c) Recent anti-immigrant legislation.
2. If Nazario had to add more recent pertinent information about political debates surrounding immigration, what do you think she would add?

3. Nazario poses 3 questions, and then offers some findings from “think tanks” to explore possible answers to these questions. What answers does she propose? What do you know about the organizations that did the research she cites? Are there angels they might not have explored that would impact their findings?

The final questions are:
   a) Is migration good for migrants themselves?
   b) Is it good for the countries from which they are migrating?
   c) Is it good for the U.S. and its citizens?

4. If you could pose a question to any of the people in Enrique’s family, who would you want to talk to and what would you like to ask?

5. Can you link Enrique’s journey to stories of people you know in our community? What’s their story?

6. Do you feel like you can relate to Enrique because of any similar journeys, odysseys or ongoing challenges you’ve faced in your own life, or within your own family? What’s your story?

Notes.
1. As you read through the notes, what do they suggest about the investigative methods the author employed?

Journeys/Travesias project.
Thank you for being a part of the community read of Enrique’s Journey! If you would like to share a story of your own “journey” in response to the book, please let me know! You can either send me a written document or you could tell it to me verbally. (jennifer.cooley@uni.edu)

What else can we do as a community in response to the book?