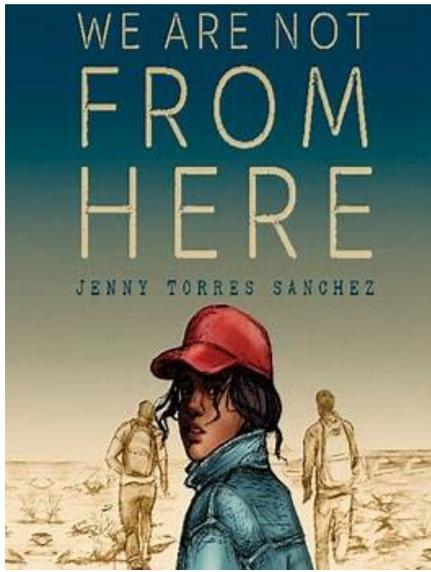


We Are Not From Here



Note: Obtain your own copy of the book and bring it to class on the first day of school.

Author: Jenny Torres Sanchez

Published: 2020

Annotate & Consider These Topics:

- **Identify & Belonging:** How do the characters' identities shift throughout the narrative?
- **Survival versus Dignity:** Identify instances where characters must choose between basic survival and maintaining their dignity or values.
- **The Costs:** Track the various sacrifices and losses the characters experience throughout their journey.

While Reading . . .

- **Keep a reading journal** as you read. After each significant reading session, record the date, time, and pages read; then, write about key plot developments, character evolution (particularly Pequeña, Pulga, and Chico), and emerging themes of migration, survival, or identity. Your journal must contain a minimum of **four** detailed entries. Each entry should demonstrate thoughtful engagement with the text. This journal may be typed or handwritten and is due on the first day of school.
- **Compose a 350-word reflection** exploring your intellectual and emotional response to the novel. This informal writing may use first person and should analyze specific scenes that impacted you, examine how the novel challenged your understanding of Central American experiences, and discuss the effectiveness of Torres Sanchez's storytelling. Include specific textual evidence and consider compelling elements and aspects you found challenging or problematic. Your reflection should demonstrate honors-level critical thinking while maintaining an authentic personal voice.
- **Research a current news article** (published within the last six months) from a reputable source that connects to one of the novel's central themes: violence or migration in Central America, refugee experiences, or youth resilience. Write a 150-word analysis in your journal that connects the real-world situation to specific events in the novel and examines how the article enhances your understanding of the narrative. Select a fact-based news report rather than an opinion piece. Include a Works Cited page with the article's publication information and a citation for the novel.