

Canal dela reina book review essay



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

BOOK JOURNAL (Canal de la Reina by Liwayway Arceo) The world is composed of different kinds of people. Some people are rich, others are poor. But in most countries majority of the people are the poor. 1. Write about what your feelings are after reading the opening chapter(s) of the book. How do your feelings change after reading half the book? Do you feel any differently after finishing the book? Would you read the book again?

When I first read the opening chapters of the novel, I thought that it would be boring because the main character, Caridad De los Angeles, was just looking for a piece of land they own which is located in Canal de la Reina. But when I was in the middle of reading the novel, different issues were revealed and it made me excited to read the next chapters because of the curiosity that I had feel. After I read the novel, I was satisfied and happy because it answered all my questions in my mind regarding the issues and conflicts that I encountered. 2. What emotions did the book invoke: laughter, tears, smiles, anger?

Or, was the book just boring and meaningless? Record some of your reactions. The Novel made me smile because at the end, the truth was revealed and justice came to the De los Angeles family regarding their land in Canal de la Reina. It also gave me a little bit of irritation when it comes to the part where Nyora Tentay, the one who claims that she owns a piece of land in Canal de la Reina, used bribery just to protect her illegal doings without thinking of how it will affect to other people. 3. Sometimes books touch you, reminding you of your own life, as part of the larger human experience.

Are there connections between the book and your own life? Or, does the book remind you of an event that happened to someone you know? Does the book remind you of what happened in another book you've read? When I was reading the novel, one of the main characters, Caridad de los Angeles, reminds me of my Mother. She is an understanding mother to her family. She has a big love and concern to her husband and especially to her son and daughter Leni and Junior. And just like my mother, she is a brave woman and ready to face the problems that she will encounter. 4.

Would you like to be one of the characters? Which of the characters would you become, if you could? If there's something about the character that you'd want to change, what is it? If I have given the chance to become one of the characters, I would say that I want to become Leni, the daughter of Caridad and Salvador De los Angeles; she finished her studies in medicine and currently an intern. She specializes in pediatrics and a very intelligent woman because she is the one who topped the medical board exam. I like her because she is very dedicated to her work and loves her family very much.

She is willing to sacrifice everything just to help people who are in need. 5. If you were the author, would you have changed the name of a character, or altered the location of the scene? What does the name mean to you? Do you have a negative connotation associated with the name? What would you name the character instead? What would you use as a setting? Canal de la Reina is really a striking novel. I don't think I don't have the right to change the name of the characters, even the location or setting because in every angle that I looked, it really has a meaning and things that shows the truth

and reality of life. . Does the book leave you with questions you would like to ask?? What are they? Would you like to direct your questions at a particular character? What questions would you like to ask the author of the book? Are they questions that you may be able to answer by reading more about the author's life and/or works? Many socio-economic issues were seen in the novel. Aside from mediocrity that we encounter, it also shows corruption. Because of the desire of Nyora Tentay on claiming the land in Canal de la Reina, she even used a big amount of money to bribe the police and mayor to protect her.

Until now, it still happens to the every side of the country. Even small or big people are a victim of these doings. Because of these, lives of the community are affected. Even the economy is not progressing and the management of laws in the country is not organized. 7. Are you confuse about what happened in the book? What events or characters do you not understand? Does the use of language in the book confuse you? How did your confusion affect how you liked the book? Is there anything that the author could have done to make what happened (or didn't happen) more clear?

I don't think I was confused on what happened on the novel. The author really made a good story and it is eqasily understood. The story has a flow and that will makes you excited to read it and predict what will happen on the characters. 8. Is there an idea in the book that makes you stop and think, or prompts questions? Identify the idea and explain your responses. There is one part of the novel that I would really like to know. The part was about the

buying and selling of drugs. I want to know when it can be stopped, what are the things we need to stop it, etc.

I really don't like drugs and I hate people who are selling it because many people will be affected because of it especially the families. 9. What are your favorite lines/quotes? Copy them into your reading log/journal and explain why these passages caught your attention. Junior was talking to his dad about him taking up law, how he can help people and his contribution for the betterment of the society. " talaga naman Dad! Alam nyo yon... masasayang ang paghihirap natin at pakikilaban para sa kapisang lupang ito kung makaraan ang lahat ay ang dating pamayanan din ang sisibol.

Kailangan ang pagbabago... kailangang magkaroon ng kahulugan ang lupang ito... hindi lang lupang sinilangan ng mama... o namana niya sa mga lolo. Ito'y isang simbolo... simbolo ng pagbabago..." in junior's statement, he explains what Canal de la Reina symbolizes, a new hope and a new beginning. He was talking about the Canal de la Reina after the typhoon and big flood that destroyed the houses in the area. 10. How have you changes after reading the book? What did you learn that you never knew before? After reading the novel, I realized that we should be open for every possible thing that could be happen.

We need to accept reality and as much as possible we should help make our country better by doing the right things. I always knew that illegal doings can be found everywhere. We should be alert and do what is right. 11. Who else should read this book? Should anyone not be encouraged to read this book? Why? Would you recommend the book to a friend or fellow classmate? I

recommend Canal de la Reina to all the high school and college students. It is a novel that exposes the social cancer in the high levels of contemporary Philippine society.

The social cancer, based on the novel, is masked by the flamboyance and the pomposity of the affluent members of Filipino society. It will help the students to understand better on what is really happening to the Philippine economy. By this Novel, they would be more aware and it will let them think on what are the possible things that can be used to make our country better.

12. Would you like to read more books by this author? Have you already read other books by the author? Why or why not? It is my first time reading a novel written by Liwayway Arceo.

As I am reading the novel, I can see now that Liwayway Arceo is really a very talented writer because through her works, it shows the reality or what is really happening in our country. 13. Write a brief summary or review of the book. What happened? What didn't happen? Capture what is about that book stands out. The novel revolves around the domineering figure of Nyora Tentay (Nyora is short for Senyora), who seems to be the queen of Canal de la Reina. She is the matriarch of the Marcial family, consisting of her son Victor, Victor's wife Gracia, and their son Gerry.

The Marcials are rich but their family is steeped in misunderstanding and disorder due to Nyora Tentay who controls the actions of Victor and his family. Aside from suppressing her own kin, she also abuses her little fortune by lending to the poor with high interest rates. In contrast to the Marcials, the de los Angeles family is an epitome of a good family. Salvador, Caridad

and their children Leni and Junior have no qualms about their relationship with each other. The families collide when Nyora Tentay buys off a piece of land owned by the de los Angeles family at Canal de la Reina from its former caretaker.

Caridad asserts her right but does not resort to violence while Nyora Tentay bribes officials and the police to maintain her claim. When a flood wipes out the structures at Canal de la Reina, and Caridad gets hold of Nyora Tentay's documents, she returns the papers rather than use them against her enemy. Due to this, Nyora Tentay gives way. The happy ending is furthered by Leni and Gerry's wedding. 14. Write about the characters which one is your favorite? Is there a character you hate, detest, and despise? Why? What traits could you change about the characters that would change how you think about them?

Do you think that any of the characters represent real people? Does anything about a particular character seem to be related to the author's true personality – who the writer is? The main characters in Canal de la Reina are the Marcial family and the De los Angeles family. The members of the Marcial family are Nyora Tentay (i. e. Senyora Tentay; the term senyora is the Filipino word for the Spanish term senora, meaning “ Mrs. ”; nyora is the abbreviated form of senyora), Victor, Gracia, and Gerry. In the story, Nyora Tentay is depicted as the matriarch of the wealthy Marcial family and is labelled as the “ queen of Canal de la Reina”.

Apart from being the controller of the Marcial family, Nyora Tentay is a lender of money who charges high interest rates. Victor is Nyora Tentay's

son. Gracia is Victor's wife. Junior is Victor and Gracia's son. On the other hand, the De los Angeles family is composed of husband and wife Salvador and Caridad. Leni and Junior are their children. Gerry Marcial and Leni de los Santos are lovers. The conflict between the Marcials and the De los Angeleses began when Nyora Tentay bought a piece of land owned by the De los Angeles family. Nyora Tentay did not buy the land directly from the De Los Angeles family.

She bought it from the De los Angeles' former caretaker. Nyora Tentay used bribery to assert her claim. A flood occurs at Canal de la Reina. Building and structures have been damaged. Caridad found Nyora Tentay's documents. Caridad returns the documents to Nyora Tentay, instead of using them against the latter. Because of Caridad's good will, Nyora Tentay had a change of heart. Gerry Marcial and Leni de los Angeles gets married. Liwayway Arceo (1920-1999) was a multi-awarded Tagalog fictionist, journalist, radio scriptwriter and editor from the Philippines.

Arceo was the author of well-received novels such as Canal de la Reina and Titser. She also published collections of short stories such as Ina, Maybahay, Anak at iba pa, Mga Maria, Mga Eva and Ang Mag-anak na Cruz. Most of her books were published by Ateneo de Manila University Press and The University of the Philippines Press. Arceo's story Uhaw ang Tigang na Lupa was placed second in the Japanese Imperial Government-sanctioned Pinakamabuting Maikling Katha ng 1943 (The Best Short Stories of 1943). Arceo made her mark as a lead actress in a Japanese and Philippine film produced during World War II.

The film *Tatlong Maria* was produced by two movie companies: X'Otic Pictures of the Philippines and Eiga Hekusa of Japan in 1944. She also ventured into radio by *Ilaw ng Tahanan*, a long-running radio serial. *Ilaw ng Tahanan* became a television soap opera aired in RPN 9 during the late 1970s. Arceo's short story *Lumapit, Lumayo ang Umaga* was later turned into an award-winning film by National Artist Ishmael Bernal in 1975. Filipina thespian Elizabeth Oropesa received a FAMAS Best Actress Award in 1976 for her role in the film.

Arceo received a Carlos Palanca for Short Story in Filipino (Filipino (Tagalog) Division) in 1962; a Japan Foundation Visiting Fellowship in 1992; a Gawad CCP for Literature given by the Cultural Center of the Philippines in 1993; a Doctorate on Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, from the University of the Philippines in 1991; the Catholic Authors Award from the Asian Catholic Publishers in 1990, and the Gawad Balagtas Life Achievement Award for Fiction from the Unyon ng mga Manunulat sa Pilipinas (Writers Union of the Philippines or UMPIL) in 1998.

In 1999, Liwayway Arceo received a Philippine National Centennial Commission award for her pioneering and exemplary contributions in the field of literature. When she passed away, Filipino writers paid tribute to Liwayway A. Arceo during a memorial service held at the Loyola Memorial Chapel in Guadalupe, Makati City, Philippines on December 6, 1999.