



1.

This story was kinda dumb, and it sounds familiar so I think I've read it before.



2. He goes from bad to better  
because he wants to impress  
Naomi.

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3. This story not only says  
that people change when they're  
in love, but also that being  
in love can make people  
strive to be better than they  
are

4. I personally did not like the story, even though others might have because it wasn't at all in-depth. There was no deep symbolism and I couldn't relate to this at all

ANCHOR 1



1.

My thoughts about the story is  
I enjoyed it. At first it was very  
boring, but as I kept reading...it  
it got much better.

2. In the beginning of the story Luis was very upset about working at the junkyard. He sat on top of hubcaps for the longest time dreading to clean them. But once he saw a young girl that needed a hubcap he got right to it. Later on that night his father said he wanted everything in order by size, year, etc. So when he went out that night he went to the junkyard and did some of that work for his dad and he also found the hubcap for Abomi.



3. What the story says about people in general is that there's a lot of people who don't like to do their work. For example Luis cleaning the hubcaps



4.

The author did a good job writing this story because something different would happen. He didn't just let the story drag on and be boring.

ANCHOR 2





## Response to Literature

1. I thought this it wasn't a bad story a little boring but not bad. The question I have is what sickness did his mother have. I want to know why he would go and see if his gang members are around after getting caught breaking and entering with them, but ended up at the funeral home was that because his mom went there or because the beautiful girl was there.

2. He changes from the beginning to end by in the beginning he didn't want to do any work and didn't see why his dad wanted a wall of neatly stacked hydrocaps. At the end he went and did the work on his own. I guess he understood why his father did stuff like that it was because there was a beginning middle and end to it all. It's also probably because the pretty girl needed a cap and he was determined to find it.

3. This story says that emotions make people do crazy things. Take the dishes, the father made a shrine out of them to remind him of his wife and also his dog. Through the hubcaps all night to find the one that Naomi was looking for. This reminds of something my family did when my grandparents died we kept everything we could find about them or that they owned.



4. he was successful because the story made a point the point is that people change, one way or another, and also are driven by emotions like love and finding that hubcap for the pretty girl. The story also had a good ending because he found her what she wanted and they became friends

ANCHOR 3



1. The boy, Luis, seemed very angry at the world, and at life. He has had a hard life for the past 3 years. His mother died then his father didn't really like to talk to anyone. So he was basically lonely and made up a club so he would fit in more. I liked the author's use of symbolism, like how he described Naomi as "a smooth wood carving". I think that the picture Naomi drew might have been him when he found the hubcap, and that was "catching the Moon".

2. At the beginning of the story, Luis is a very angry boy, mad at the world, his father, and authority. He is mad his mother died so he does not talk to anyone. I think he wants his father to be like he was later in the story after he sees Naomi a place overcomes him when he broke down and cried and he realized Naomi wasn't laughing at him he knew. After that he did what his father hoped would happen and he helped Naomi too. Naomi comforted him without saying anything and he changed. I think he realized what and who he was becoming was not what his mother would have been "proud of".

3. To me, it says that people you don't really know can be the ones who will help you the most. Sometimes there is nothing that needs to be said. When my grandma died I didn't talk to anyone. They wanted me to talk about it, but I wasn't ready to talk. My older brother just sat down next to me and gave me a hug and he told me I didn't have to talk about it until I was ready to, and when I wanted to talk he would listen. I have also seen a movie "Change by a heart". It is about a boy, his parents die and he doesn't want to listen to his foster parents or anyone. Then he meets Carla, and she shows him what it is to love and care about someone, and he totally changes and they fall in love with each other.

4. I thought the story was well written and put together nicely. He uses a lot of similes to get you to picture what this girl looks like and how he saw her. The author shows many emotions like anger, sadness, mourning, and he shows denial by the father's part. The author puts in parts of memory by the character's also. Like when Luis is remembering his mother's cooking and how she looked and acted, and what she would say to him at night.

This piece of literature has a little mystery in it as well, b/c I wondered other things about his mother. And it shows emotion good format, and it gave a lot of details too. So that is why I think this is a good book.

ANCHOR 4



5

1. My thoughts about this story are positive. The author put the story together very well. A question that came to my mind was why Naomi was so special, that he had done such a nice thing for? He seemed <sup>in</sup> to build an emotional wall around himself until he went to the funeral and cried after remembering the day his mother died. After this occurred he kind of opened up. Maybe thinking of his mother's sweet personality made him want to act the same way. Another question I had while reading was whether or not Luis would feel working with his father after the "agreement" made in court. At first he seemed to despise being there and he was only there because he had to be. But at the end he compared the feeling of sorting car parts to his plans he made in sharks. Hopefully he'll quit the sharks and continue to work at the junk yard.

2. Luis changes from beginning to end in a few ways which are all positive. One thing that changes about him is his attitude towards people. He definitely has shown an increase in maturity<sup>INF</sup>. When Naomi had first needed a matching car part, he was a bit frustrated. He knew it would take a while, and he had better things to do. Then at the end he found her the perfect match and made it look as nice as he could. He acted as if he were glad to do it too.

Another thing that changes about Luis are his emotions. He appears to be "too tough to feel anything". It is stated in the story that the tears he let out had been building up for almost 3 years.

I think two things made him change. The main person that had the impact was his mother. He was changing for the better so she would be prouder than she ever was even though she wasn't there anymore. The second factor was his father. Maybe he realized he hadn't been the best son and he wanted to change.

3. This story says a lot about people in general. It makes you realize that people can indeed change. They can change in a good way or a bad way. It may happen instantly or take eternity.

This story reminds me of that quote, "You don't know what you have till it's gone." Luis probably didn't appreciate his mother to the best of his ability. I bet he never even thought about how lucky he was to have her. But afterwards he missed her so much. After she died, and it was too late to appreciate her. He didn't realize what he had till it was gone.

I can relate to Luis in the feeling of loss. My mother married a wonderful man who was a better father to me than my own. I was so lucky to have him. I never realized how much I needed him until he died. What made it worse was that it happened on Christmas morning.

I'll never be the same without him. So I think Luis and I are feeling the same way.

4. The author was very successful in creating good literature. The main factor that makes literature "good" is having a meaning or a moral. When someone reads "good literature" they find a message. The meanings or messages are very clear in this story.

When Luis and his father met Naomi, it was almost as if God were sending her to them. So they would remember Luis's mother, Mr. Contron (father) had even said that she resembled her when she had been younger. This had a "meaning".

Another "meaning" or connection I found was Luis's outlook on things and his Shark club. Both were mean, didn't care about people or things. But he changed so much, maybe club will change too, possibly into something more kind. Something people may want to join. His club had a "meaning".

I definitely think the author put this story together very nicely. The beginning, middle and end fit together like a puzzle.

ANCHOR 5

## Response to Literature



1. I thought this was a very touching story. I always find it amazing, almost like "el destino" when one special person comes along to make you see past what you've been doing wrong. Naomi was that person to Luis. She was his savior. I found the use of the hubcaps to have a very profound symbolism. To me, each hubcap could almost represent a different road Luis could have chosen to take. Some were messy and didn't deserve a second glance, others were aging a bit, and a few just needed to be cleaned up. Luis chose the path (hubcap) that just needed a little "tender-loving-care." He chose that path when he cleaned off the hubcap for Naomi's VW. I was curious why the father and Luis didn't seem to be too close, especially after the mother's death. I understand the father could still be mourning, but I was surprised that they didn't turn to each other in a time of need. I think he should've tried to work through his grief with Luis because it might've kept him out of trouble. He would have had other ways to express his own grief.

2. I think the title "Catch the Moon" can offer a Symbolism to show how Luis changed from the beginning of the story to the end. In life, you can either let setbacks hold you back forever and give up, or you can try to get past them. Luis took his mother's death as a setback and entered a gang. However, he finally realized <sup>he would do better by reaching for the stars to try to catch the moon</sup> that he really did want to "catch the moon." I think he wanted to do something that was meaningful and productive instead of hanging out with a bunch of "Tiburones." "Doing something that had a beginning, a middle and an end did something to your head." I think that was a huge realization for Luis and it caused him to realize that not only did he want to accomplish something -- he needed to. Also, when Luis was thinking of his mom, he remembered her saying that she was "just proud that you are my son." This also could have caused his change in motivation because he didn't want to let his mom down. He <sup>realized that he</sup> had to always allow and give reasons for her to be proud of him to keep her spirit alive.

3. I think this story shows that anyone can overcome a tragedy and do something great if they <sup>even if it's with the help of someone else</sup> try. Anything is possible if you put your mind to it. This story reminded me of an episode of "Party of Five." A main character, Charlie, was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease and was very sick. When he was initially diagnosed, he gave up on life and acted as though he had already died. However, he met a wonderful woman at a grocery store who gave him the motivation and reason to try to fight the disease to survive. Charlie finally woke up and realized he should do something with his life while he was still alive. Abomi was that wake-up call for Luis. Although she may not have realized it, she was the motivation Luis needed to overcome the tragedy of his mother's death. Luis was then even able to find the VW hubcap and achieve something because he worked hard and didn't give up until he found it. This motivation also reminds me, in a way, of my <sup>and his dad</sup> after my grandpa died. Yes, I was very upset, but unlike Luis, I realized that life was too short to grieve for a lifetime. Instead of staying in constant grief, I try to live each day to the fullest. I've overcome that tragedy because that is what will make my grandpa proud.

## Response to Literature

4. I thought this was not only a good piece of literature, but a terrific one! The story was very emotional and the symbolism was thought provoking. First of all, I found the symbolism of the hubcaps, relating to life, very interesting. (There were many different ways one could've interpreted it, but I chose paths in life.) I also thought this was good literature because of the depth in detail. For example, I could envision Luis sitting outside the funeral home with his memories of climbing the oak tree. I believe all good literature must have a purpose and a message. This story definitely had both. "...wanted to give him the first good thing he had given anyone in a long time." The message here was that you can get past your setbacks and still manage to strive for greatness. Luis did that and was proud of himself. That specific hubcap he gave to Abomi represented his struggle and success to overcome a setback. Luis knew it and felt pride in doing something meaningful and completing it. This story's lesson motivated me to want to believe more in myself just as Luis did. To me, that's most important in good literature. It makes the reader able to connect and want to do something to better themselves and those around them.