

Reflections on *Seedfolks*

by Eli D.

Comparing and Contrasting Ana and Florence

Ana and Florence are both old women, maybe 50-60 years old. Because they're old, they both have problems. Ana has trouble with her ankle so she needs a cane. Florence has arthritis in her hands. Both Ana and Florence get friends from the garden. Ana is more suspicious, like when Kim is planting lima beans (but after she dug Kim's seeds up she saw her mistake and reburied them). Florence is a more open and trusting, like when she waves to a man she doesn't know. Ana and Florence both love the garden, but both participate in different ways. Ana helps with the lima beans. But Florence, with her arthritis can't help but she does watch over the plants and when a guy tries to steal tomatoes, she stops him.



Analyzing a Quote From Florence

"Be not Solitary, Be not Idle." (p. 84)

Florence is an old woman with arthritis in her hands. Her grandma had had a sampler that said "Be not solitary, be not idle." Florence uses this saying to guide some of her life. "Be not solitary..." she got married. "Be not idle..." everyday day she goes for a walk. In my mind I think it means never be alone, never be without exercise or useful activities.

To Florence this matters when she sees the garden. When she saw it she might have thought two things. One she might have been glad that all the people were doing what her Grandmother's sampler said. But she might have been sad that she couldn't be helping in the garden.

Finally, this quote reminds me of home. When my mom asks, "Don't you want any friends over?" Or "Why don't you go outside and play." Also this quote is important to the world. If everyone has someone they trust and always try and help, the world might be a better place.

Florence, the Kind One

I admire Florence for not being angry or sad about the garden. I think Florence would have been angry because she has arthritis in her hands so she can't plant even though she really wants to. If I had been Florence I would have been angry or really sad. Florence actually helped in a way which she might have thought was small but really it was big. She protected the garden from thieves. Also she gives good morale to people by talking to them.