

# Reflections on *Seedfolks*

by Emma W.

## Comparing and Contrasting Nora and Maricela

Nora and Maricela are very different people, but the garden did some important things for both of them. Both Nora and Maricela got hope. Nora was given hope that Mr. Myles was getting better and paying more attention to what was going on around him. She was given this hope by seeing him in the garden. Maricela gained hope that things might be okay with her baby. Leona gave her this hope because of what she said to her. They both gained a better understanding of nature. Maricela was told about it by Leona and saw things in a very different way. Nora gained a better understanding by just watching Mr. Myles garden, and helping him. Nora gained a nice place where she liked to be. But it was not that way for Maricela, she didn't enjoy the garden. Maricela learned a lot about herself while Nora learned a lot, not about herself but about Mr. Myles. Nora and Maricela are two very different characters but the garden helped them both in important ways.

## I Admire Leona the Determined One

I really admire what Leona did for the community. Even when it became hard to get people to take the trash away, she didn't give up. Leona was able to see the vacant lot with a few scattered gardens, and know that that it could be a beautiful place! Also, Leona was able to be inspired, she saw a few gardeners and wanted to help. If it were not for Leona there may not be a Gibb Street Garden.

## Analyzing a Quote From Leona

“Whole city shuts down but the garden just keeps going” p. 72

In this quote Leona, an old woman from the garden, is speaking. She says simply that when the power in the city goes off, the people in the garden keep working. Leona is talking to Maricela, an unhappy pregnant teenager. They were in the garden as a storm got closer. Suddenly the power went out. Leona saw a man keep gardening as if nothing had happened.

Leona saying this shows that the garden is separate from the rest of the city. When people are in the garden, they are more in the world of the garden, not in the hustle and bustle of the city. I think Leona saying this might have given Maricela a better understanding about the garden and about even about herself, how when something bad happens the good things can still go on.

Leona saying this really mattered. It seems to say that even when things like electricity fail, nature will just keep going. Leona saying this connects to me because when i am in my garden i often forget about things like school and i am able to relax. Because of the garden, people were much more connected to the natural world which makes this even more important.

