

HOME *of* *the* BRAVE

*Katherine
Applegate*

NOVEL
UNIT



CHARACTERS

As you read *Home of the Brave*, record details about each character in the chart.

KEK	
DAVE	
GANWAR	
DAK	
LUAL	
HANNAH	
LOUISE	
KEK'S MOTHER	
MS. HERNANDEZ	

Reading Questions

PART ONE:

SNOW

1. What is the "flying boat," and what do these lines tell us about Kek's life prior to coming to America?

2. Describe Kek.

OLD WORDS, NEW WORDS

3. What can the reader infer about Dave from these lines: "there is hair on his face the color of clouds before rain"?

4. How does Kek feel about his English skills?

5. Where was Kek before he came to America?

QUESTIONS

6. What do we find out about Kek's family ?

WHAT THE HECK?

7. What does Kek see that makes him shout to stop the car?

GOD WITH A WET NOSE

8. What is the importance of cattle in Kek's African home?

WELCOME TO MINNESOTA

9. Who is behind the door?

FAMILY

10. Who is Ganwar?

11. "I have learned about shaking hands. At the camp they taught us how." What inference can be made from these lines about Kek's culture?

12. What happened to Kek's father and brother?

13. Why does Kek cry when he sees his aunt?

LESSONS

14. We find out several things about Kek's old home in this section. List them.

GOOD-BYES

15. How old is Kek?

16. "Kek finds the sun when the sky is dark." What does Nyatal mean by this?

FATHER

17. What was Kek's father like?

18. What was Kek's brother's name?

BED

19. What do we find out about Lual?

20. What is "the blanket cloud?"

21. Kek thinks, "I'm not a little boy...not anymore." Why does he think this?

BROTHER

22. How old is Ganwar?

23. What does Kek say about his brother at the end of this section?

TV MACHINE

24. Kek talks about the holes in his life. What does he mean?

NIGHT

25. Kek says about the cloth, "it's from the camp"..."It's true, true enough. I don't want to say the whole truth." What do you think is significant about the cloth that Kek holds?

MAMA

26. What does Kek say about his mother?

SLEEP STORY

27. Summarize the dream Kek has in this chapter.

PART TWO:

PAPERWORK

1. What does Kek think about the woman with red nail polish?

INFORMATION

2. What does Diane say about Kek's mother?

SCHOOL CLOTHES

3. How does Kek feel about his new clothes?

ONCE THERE WAS...

4. Describe the school experiences that Kek has had:

NEW DESK

5. What is Kek's first impression of his school?

6. What misconception does Kek have about his assigned desk?

READY

7. What is surprising to Kek about his teachers in the ESL class?

CATTLE

8. How does the teacher ask students to introduce themselves?

LUNCH

9. What is Kek's perspective about his cafeteria lunch?

FRIES

10. How are Kek's new friends reacting to him?

NOT KNOWING

11. Why does Kek say that he was lucky to see his father and brother killed?

HOME

12. How does Kek feel about his first day of school?

13. What does Ganwar say about being an American?

TIME

14. How does Kek's aunt feel about life in America?

HELPING

15. What does Kek do to try to help his aunt?

HOW NOT TO WASH DISHES

16. What do we learn about Hannah and her home life?

NOT-SMART BOY

17. What happened to the dishes?

MAGIC MILK

18. Describe Hannah's living situation and family situation.

19. What misconception about chocolate milk does Kek have?

WET FEET

20. What does Dave suggest Ganwar do, and what is Ganwar's reaction?

21. What idea does Kek have at the end of this section?

BUS

22. How does Hannah get money?

LOU

23. Describe the character Louise.

COWS AND COOKIES

24. What does Kek say to Lou about her cow?

NIGHT TALK

25. What does Ganwar miss about his home?

26. What does Ganwar tell Kek about returning home, and about belonging in America?

PART THREE:**COWBOY**

1. How does Kek decide on the name Gol for the cow?

2. What is Kek's new nickname?

WORKING

3. Why does Kek like the work on the farm?

GANWAR, MEET GOL

4. Why is Ganwar anxious about getting a job?

AN IDEA

5. What proposal does Kek make?

6. How do the boys feel while working in the barn?

FIELD TRIP

7. Why isn't Kek bothered by waiting in line?

8. What does Kek think is the most amazing part of American life?

THE QUESTION

9. What is the question that causes Kek pain?

APPLE

10. Where is Kek from?

11. Summarize what happens with the apple.

GROCERY STORE

12. Why does Kek cry in the grocery store?

THE STORY I TELL HANNAH ON THE WAY HOME

13. What story does Kek tell Hannah, and how does she react?

LIBRARY

14. What does Kek tell Ms. Hernandez about how he is feeling?

GOING UP

15. Why is it hard for Kek to understand the value of money?

16. What is Kek doing at the mall, and what surprises him?

HEARTS

17. What does Kek buy, and how does it make him feel?

WHITE GIRL

18. Describe the incident with the boys in front of the apartment.

SCARS

19. What is the *gaar* that Kek realizes he will never have?

20. What is Ganwar's idea of manhood and bravery?

BAD NEWS

21. What bad news does Kek get in this section, and how does he react?

NO MORE

22. How does Kek explain what he is feeling to Hannah?

LAST DAY

23. What happens on the last day of school in Kek's ESL class?

SUMMER

24. What does Kek do during the summer?

What does Kek say about writing letters?

MORE BAD NEWS

25. What news does Kek receive in this section?

SLEEP STORY

26. What do we find out about the last time Kek saw his mother?

27. What is the piece of fabric that Kek carries?

CONFESSION

28. Why does Kek say that his dream is worse than Ganwar's dreams?

RUNNING AWAY

29. What is Kek's plan?

BUS

30. Where does Kek plan to go, and what makes him change his plans?

TREED

31. What does Kek do when he sees Lou coming?

GANWAR

32. What does Kek consider about Ganwar's ability to work?

33. What message does Ganwar give Kek when Kek says he can't do it all by himself?

TALK

34. How does Lou react when Kek tells her he is running away?

CHANGES

35. What does Kek realize about Lou in this chapter?

36. What does Kek decide to do in this chapter?

PART 4:

HERDING

1. Where do you think Kek is taking Gol?

TRAFFIC JAM

2. What causes a traffic jam in this section?

COPS

3. "Some people who drive by use words I haven't learned in ESL yet." What do you think this means?

4. What do the cops decide to do about the situation with Gol?

ZOO

5. What does the zoo owner decide to do?

EPILOGUE

6. What does Kek say about hope?

7. What is Kek's reaction to the person who comes off the plane?