

Primera Memoria Chapter 1

Notes and Quotes

- She moved to the Island of Majorca when she was 12 years old
- After her mum died, she was cared for by a nanny 'Maurcia' who fell ill, then she was taken care of by her grandmother "Mi madre murio cuatro anos atras y Maurcia (la vieja aha que me cuidaba) estaba impedida por una enfermedad. Mi abuela se hacia cargo definitivamente de mi"
- The day she arrived her grandmother took her to a hotel, which she said smelt damp. Her grandmother slept in the adjoining room.
- She started to cry because of the ants in her room. She broke a glass that smashed on the floor.
- She let her imagination run elsewhere. She was thinking about memories from her nanny Maurcia. The apples laid out on planks.
- She couldn't sleep that night, because she had lost all her favourite books when they moved and Maurice was no longer there. She was annoyed at her grandmother
- During her first visits she didn't really play with Borja.
- Her untamed and stilled nature was because of her country background and everyone assumed that living elsewhere would change that.
- She was expelled from Our lady of the Angels amid scandal and consternation when she was just 14
- She describes her grans houses as having coldness and having a promise of great corrections
- Right in the middle of her vacation, the war broke out and her Aunt Emilia and Borja were not able to return to the peninsula. Her Uncle Alvaro was a colonel and was fighting at the front.
- Her and Borja realised that they'd have to stay on the island indefinitely.
- She said that she became bored

- She says that her Aunt and Grandmother liked them to practice their french accent
- Borja and Matia talk through their plan of escaping, matia calls Borja a hypocrite fro putting on his shoes when their plan was to take them off.
- They had a competition to see who could use the worst language towards their grandmother, calling her a beast. "Ya nos vio la bestia".
- She says that Borja didn't have any affection towards her, but he needed her and proffered to have her in his life.
- At this point we are introduced to a new character, Lauro. He is the son of grandmothers housekeeper
- They sent Lauro to a monastery where he had to sing in the choir and wear a skirt. He believes that there is some sort of treasure buried on the island.
- They are quite racist towards Lauro calling him "chink" because he's Mongolian/ Chinese. They appear to bully Lauro by calling all sorts of names.
- Borja appears to be the bully in this chapter. Matia and Lauro are both scared of him
- Lauro is said to have had hatred in his eyes for Borja. Emphasising that he is in fact the bully in this chapter.
- Borja likes to be in charge. He doesn't take likely when Lauro finally has enough and leaves.
- Matia says that Borja is slightly ape like, as like the rest of her maternal side of the family.
- Mentioned is the fact that Borjas dad a colonel in the army may never return. Presumably because he may have died in the front.
- They believe that the war will be over in a matter of days.
- Enemy planes flew over the island. Which side are they on?
- Then, the Taronij arrived. They embody Hitlers perfect human. Blonde hair and blue eyes.

- Lauro lives in the attic. The hottest part of the house when they have their siesta. There is the only time that they have seen him take off his jacket due to the heat in the attic. Almost treated slave like, in bad conditions and is mal treated.
- At the end of the chapter once the wind had died down they said they would go out again, but said that Lauro couldn't come. He's being excluded because of his race maybe?

Primera Memoria Chapter 2

Notes and Quotes

- In the first lines she talks about how they would sneak out of the house without their grandmother seeing them, as she thought they were in class.
- She says the houses glow at sundown with yellowish lights, and looked like pawns in a toy world.
- She says her gran was sat in a black leather chair, focusing her opera glasses on her false sapphires, playing and looking at them.
- Borjas boat was called *Leontina*.
- She says that there was a small pier that was only accessible by steps carved into rocks. And that only Borja and Matia used to go there.
- In *Leontina* they used to sail up the rocky coast, to a small cove of Santa Catalina.
- She says they called it the cemetery of boats, because of mariners of the port abandoned ships there.
- The best way to get to Santa Catalina is by boat
- Land was too dangerous, due to high, rough rocks cut like knives.
- Someone called Guiems was always against Borja. On Borjas side were the sons of the administrator and Juan Antonia, the doctors son.
- Santa Catalina only belonged to Borja and Matia.
- The beach at Catalina was very small.
- Matia had always felt there was something fateful about that cove
- Inside Young Simon Borja kept his treasure, money he had stolen from their grandmother and Aunt Emilia, deck of cards, cigarettes, a flashlight and a mysterious packages.
- There were also bottles of Brandy they'd stolen from their grandfathers room.
- She says that there were times when Guiems gang and Borjas gang got on.

- Matia describes Borja as a ferret, a real vulture when it came to their dead grandfathers things.
- She also said that the three rooms of their grandfathers expressed a strong attraction for Matia and Borja.
- She says that everything in their grandmothers house was a mixture of valuable objects, filth and clumsy furniture. Furnitures containing heavy woods, fine porcelain and a gold table.
- There was a gift from the King to their great grandfather, it was weapons.
- Borja was able to break into their Grandfathers rooms, there was a superstition that his soul floated through the 3 conjoining rooms.
- In Borjas search he found a book about the Jews, in which it said how they burned Jews in the little square/plaza in the outskirts, next to an oak grove. Link to Hitlers fascist movement of mass genocide to wipe out the Jewish Population of Europe.
- Matia said that the words from that book, ran down his spine like a damp rat.
- Borja would read the book to her, savouring every word to terrorise her.
- They would smoke cigarettes at night as they were forbidden.
- Borja kept the humiliating and wretched proof of Lauros guilt in Young Simon
- The planks of Young Simon smell of rotting fish
- Borja liked to lie on the deck of the boat, and said that the sun did him good, that'll be why he's so tanned
- Matia says that if they're not able to love each other as brother and sister as the Holy Mother Church commands, they can at least keep each other company.
- Matia talks about the horrific pictures in her grandmothers newspaper. They didn't dare to confess their sadness. The shadow of her uncle the colonel was always present.
- Matia and Borja found a dead body on the beach at Santa Catalina beach. The man was laid flat on his face. Matia is sure that she knows who he is and that she recognises him. Maybe she thinks he's part of Melenes family.

- He had a small house and a orchard on the Hill. There house was on the middle of a lost island on her grandmothers land, quite close to the sea.
- She's says that there are other families in the village that get harassed, but their family is the worst, because they were Taronjís.
- The Taronnji brothers claimed the land from one side to another.
- She says that the sun on the island always seemed sinister to her
- She says that the Taronji were always to blame for everything.
- She goes on to talk about the orchards and the flowers and vegetables which bore over the ground.
- She said the family who live next to hers dog howled at everything, the sea, the moon at everything.
- She says there land is like another island in the middle of their grandmothers land. An island with its own house, its well, its vegetables from which they can feed themselves.
- She says that she saw Manuel doing work in the garden, but says he's no peasant. His dad, Jose had been administrator for Son Major. He then married Malene and the villagers took a dim view upon him.

Primera Memoria Chapter 3 Notes

Notes and Quotes

- At the start of this novel, Matia couldn't tell if the person was crying, because their face was covered with sweat. The man asked Borja for a loan of his boat.
- Matia said that she had never seen this man before
- She says she could hardly remember any of his features, except for his eyes, they were black with very prominent corneas that were almost blue in colour.
- She says that the man was tall and good looking for his age. And by just looking at him why he needed to ask for the boat, when he could have just pushed Borja out of way and taken it
- She says that Manuel, suddenly wasn't a boy. Ever since he asked for the boat in the Cove of Santa Catalina. She says that he surely couldn't be 16 yet.
- She says that she doesn't remember if they were scared by the dead body of the man pressed up against Young Simon.
- She then questions how he got there without a boat. She says that he must have come down across the rocks.
- She thinks that someone had thrown the man down onto the beach from above.
- She says that the Taronjis climbed the wall, and they pointed guns at one another.
- Lorenza was crying when her husband told her about it, Matia says that they were talking in their own language, but she understood what they were saying. They didn't know that she had snuck in to get ropes for Borja.
- Matia says she saw her seating with a knife between her hands.
- Lauros dad says that the Taronjis acted like animals when they tied the charcoal burners hands behind their backs.
- After listening in to the conversation Lorenza found out Matia was there and got a fright. And she used a polite form to address her, even though she doesn't usually unless her Grandmother was there.

- The dead man on the cove beach, was Manuel's father. " ¿Quién es? - preguntó Borja, con voz enronquecida. Y Manuel contestó: Mi padre"pg44
- Matia didn't want to believe that it was true, she wanted to think that it was something out of a nightmare. But she had to believe it as it was the dead man's son telling her.
- She says that it was only sweat that ran down Manuel's face, not a single tear. "Y era sudor, sudor tan sólo, lo que caía por las mejillas"pg 44
- Matia says that she intimidates Borja "Le imité"
- Borja says that by letting Manuel have the boat that they aren't doing a bad thing
- As Manuel is sailing away he shouts "Hurry up, or do you want my grandmother to find out"
- Then they heard a noise of a body falling to the bottom of the boat. They describe it as a dull thud, almost muffled by rags. Obviously a dead body being dropped in the boat.
- After Manuel had sailed away, Matia and Borja, were the only two left on the cove. They went up to Young Simon, as if they needed some sort of proof that everything they had just witnessed was not false.
- Borja put his finger in the billet holes, here there is a comparison to Saint Thomas putting his fingers in the wounds of Jesus to convince himself of the truth.
- She then says that everything seemed so unreal that afternoon
- Borja says that it should only be he and Matia who know about what happened
- They then talk about how they hadn't ever thought of Manuel before. And talk about how his dad worked for Son Major, and how they sold off Manuel's mum as a mistress to Manuel's dad. And that the master gave them the land. And that they owe everything to him.
- Matia mentions Jorge because she knows that Borja wants to be recognised the way their mysterious relative Son Major was.
- Borja and Matia have a conversation about someone who envies them, because of their lifestyle and because they live decently. And how they'd hang them all if they could.

- This worried Matia because supposedly her father was on the side that wanted to do this to them
- She says that Jose Taronji and his family did well, by sending Manuel to a convent to be educated and it was all paid by them.
- Borja says that his father is risking his life because of people that go against them. And whimpers that he's all alone on the island.
- Borja says that she is also alone. She says to Borja not to complain because he has Lauro.
- Matia asks Borja for a cigarette, to her surprise he actually gives her one. He usually doesn't.
- They then discuss whether it's was wrong to give Manuel the boat. And how their grandmother wouldn't have liked it.
- Matia realises that when Borja is talking about his hating the opposition with a vengeance that his voice quivers, as if he was afraid of something.
- They decide to leave, because they don't think that Manuels going to come back
- Borja adds that the Jew will pay for this.
- Matia says that they both have gold medals around their necks with their birthdates on them. Borjas represented the Virgin Mary and Matias represented Jesus. They say they never take them off, not even when they're sleeping.
- Borja took her a longer way home, but she could do nothing but follow him. She says she doesn't know why he dominates everyone.
- Borja swears and matia says that grandmother couldn't even imagine it.
- Borja put the flashlight on Matias face and laughed in an almost feminisms way that it irritated her.
- Borja says that he wonders what Matia will become one day since at 14 she's drinking, smoking like a truck driver and says that Grandmother doesnt know anything about that.
- She suddenly realised that her father is risking his life because of Borja.

- Then Borja says that now she's with "them" (republicans). She didn't answer, as he never asked her about it
- She thought that there was something preventing her from acting upon this. Obeying Borja, disobeying Grandmother.
- Borja grazed his hand across Matias face in an annoying gesture. She knew he did this Guiem in order to humiliate him, when they fought and he had pinned him up against the wall. She then says that her dad must have taught him to be like that.
- She felt like lying and making up stories about her father. She realised that she had been inventing her father for herself, as a weapon against something or someone.
- Borja had to stand on his tip-toes so he could be the same height as Matia, this mortified him. She says that she is too tall for her age. She says she was taller than him and all the boys in their group.
- They found the boat tied up in its usual spot and wondered why Manuel hadn't returned with it to the cove.
- They went to Manuels house and they said that they were illuminated. They also said that their grandmother would be watching from her house with her opera glasses
- She says that they all know what Jose Taronjí did

Primera Memoria Chapter 4 Notes

Notes and Quotes

- When they got to the house everyone was in the living room. When they came in Grandmother asked them where they had been so late and why didn't you say you were going out.
- She said to them that they shouldn't get home so late, and that they shouldn't leave the house without permission.
- Matia describes her grandmother as having an icy manner
- She also says that she imagined Lauro's mums heart pounding when Grandmother was scolding her son. But instead she was calm and seemed not to hear anything.
- Matia describes her Grandmother as being shaped by the tight rope around her neck. Her head above and her body below. Like two purses.
- She describes the priest as being sat as majestic as ever.
- The priest drinks orange liquor, that was a clear as water and he drank Pernod on cloudy nights. He said that his drinks were directly related to the atmosphere or the colour of the sky. Amontillado for the glaring light of the sun and melancholy liqueurs for twilight
- She says that the pictures of her grandfather and uncle Alavo couldn't be ignored because of their eyes and their jaws.
- She says that Aunt Emilia always sits and looks outside the window, as if she was waiting for something She says that she barely spoke. And Borja said its because she was worried about his dad.
- She says that the couple were a mystery for her. That she couldn't penetrate/ break through
- The only thing she ever saw Aunt Emilia do was play the piano badly.
- She says that because of her Aunt buying her nice pyjamas that she was able to get rid of the horrible school night gowns
- She found it difficult to think of her aunt loving uncle alavo.

- He was decorated in pictures, but they knew that he was at the front killing enemies.
- Matia said that uncle alavo was as good as dead, just like grandfather
- The priest opens the newspaper and point out that another city has fallen in the war. Her grandmother smiled. But this time when she smiled her teeth showed which usually doesn't happen.
- She thinks that their grandmother may be concealing another life apart from the main one. The wind has started again.
- Her grandmother then says thanks to God for his victory of our troops. Borja offered her a chair and stood next to her like a soldier.
- Matia then talks about a man called Juan Antonio.
- She describes him as very tall and thin with greenish skin. She then says his hands are fat and stubby.
- Borja, says that Juan Antonio confesses a lot at the church as he has sinned a lot. Borja then says that he sins a lot against the sixth commandment. He then says he is very dishonest and shall be condemned for it.
- Matia describes Borjas laugh as malicious.
- She describes the way Juan Antonio eats as nauseating as he is sloppy with his food.
- She describes the priest is very tall and very handsome, she said he must've been about 50 years old and had white hair and large eyes that were brown. She says that the priest possessed a great sense of dignity.
- Her grandmother says that he officiates with the dignity and majesty of a prince there is nothing comparable to the catholic liturgy.
- She says that he is not a native of the island. She describes his walk as slow with a slight abandonment.
- Everyone said that the priest was a very cultured man.
- Matia says that she felt very respectful in his presence but almost fearful.

- After this she says that when she went to bed later that night the wind had stopped and she stared out to the descent there was a strong odour present rising from the Earth, down below the sea was gleaming then suddenly a milky light spread out from behind the clouds and she saw rain descending upon them and it rained all night until dawn

Primera Memoria Chapter 5 Notes

Notes and Quotes

- When she woke up, her room was filled with yellow lights, as her shutters could not close which irritated her
- Antonia was next to her window in her bedroom feeding a bird called Gondoliero birdseed from her hand
- Antonio said she was watching the way that Matia slept and it reminded her of Matias mother
- Bothered Matia to have someone watch her sleep, it irritated her to have her say that "you don't ordinarily look like your mother but when you sleep you do"
- Antonia called Matia thin and was afraid that she might be sick
- Antonia said that she had heard Matia calling out in her sleep (sleep talking). She added that she was practically screaming.
- She describes the bird as an animated and anguished flower
- Antonia then says that Matias mother used to scream at night
- Matia is irritated yet again by this as it's always about her mother but yet nobody knew her mother
- Matia then describes her aunt Emilia as a very brilliant woman who has white hips. She says that she's not pretty but very soft and usually was absent minded and self absorbed
- Matia describes her aunt Amelia as a phantom as she would always enter a room leave speak without looking at you in the face
- She then describes the bathroom in her grandmothers house as a big shabby room with odd furniture of dark wood and marble colours. There was an enormous sink and a big mirror hanging over it. Matia ooked at herself in the mirror and saw a sloping posture as in a fantastic dream looking herself up and down
- She describes a noise in the drain pipes as dismal as in the summer the pipes are warm and they're icy in the winter

- She then goes on to describe the bath tub. She says that the bath tub was old and chipped with glazed yellow white lions feet and it had big black marks like the stigmas of an evil race.
- She says that her own image is a sat one, as she has frightened eyes.
- She describes her bed is something that makes her dizzy as it's hung from the ceiling she says that when she dozes off to sleep she imagines that she was on a floating boat in a sea of clouds on her way to someplace that she did not want to reach
- She says she feel like an apartment number as on her nightgown it says 354, 3rd
- At this point Antonia asks where Matia and Borja went as she saw her sunburnt legs covered with scratches, and self-adhesive tape on her right knee
- Antonia yet again says "how thin are you you are sick poor child, they got to take care of you yes yes God knows they ought to take care of you"
- Matia wondered who the mysterious being is that where ought to take care of her
- Meteer replied with "I'm not sick, what a nag you are!"
- They make reference to Borjas confirmation when grandmother says "don't you remember what a dream he was in his white tailored suit"
- Matia saw out of the corner of her eye one of the sweetest smiles that Borja could give to his grandmother
- While he gritted his teeth and said "inside your corset trapped like a whale"
- The garden they were next to was very neglected and grandmother was bringing that up
- The Irongate of the approached was open Ton was standing there watching them one of his eyes was clouded over and he was missing two teeth.
- Matia recalls "she will defend me she will defend me" as her grandmother passed solemnly in front of him making the ground crunch.
- Her grandmother shouted "Matia Matia" at this point she had an odd sensation of bewilderment and fear.

- Antonio yet again says that Matia does not look well even last night she looked at her the girls not well.
- Lauro comes up to Matia and ask her to hurry up as her grandmother is waiting for her as the Te Deum is scheduled for 11
- They talk about how mysterious it is that the chicken from son major always comes to the specific tree.
- Her grandmother says "these poor children haven't had the luck to live in a decent period, we are ruined, and there is a war. Good God, Almighty God, what a grief"
- Matia describes the bell ringing as an avalanche of screams over the village
- She also says the bells awoke the silence which was only trodden by the black boots of the Taronjis
- She knew it wasn't Sunday but something about that day made it seem like Sunday
- She said that the last of the faithful accented to the stone steps into the church
- She said suddenly the bell stopped and there was a sudden burst of silence. Aunt Emilia and Lauro helped Grandmother up the steps, they each carried an arm. She describes them lifting her as if they were lifting a big jar with its handles, with a lot of care; so they wouldn't spill the oil inside the jar. And then she says that was grandmother, a rich substance that everyone esteemed, even if the jar was old and ordinary.
- When she went inside the church as talks about the drawings on the roof, she says that the sun was red and fierce and the sky was pallid. Then she says that the sky is almost never blue.
- She says that it was a cruel sensation of violence and an irritated fire blaze above. (This being the art of the ceiling)
- She says that there was something Solem about the fluttering of the wings of the enormous palate of Santa Maria.
- Matia wondered to herself if there were rats chasing each other around among the gold of the altarpieces

- She then goes back describing her grandmothers house. And how it is Summber and dirty.
- Matia says that grandmothers house was a mixture of the same odours, wood, mould and salt.
- She says that inside Santa Maria that the stained glass windows exploded their colour among the blackness.
- Matia said that when she is older that she will do the same as Aunt Emilia and sole in bed until noon, look at photographs and read the newspapers.
- The sun shone through the window like it wanted to pierce a whole in the window.
- She adds that above the black picture of the ship was the sun and that they like Jonah, that they were inside a whale, with its enormous ribs.
- At the end of the chapter, Juan Antonio puts his hand on Matias knee and begins to caress it. Her skirt moved up a little bit, enough to expose her sunburnt knees. Then suddenly she couldn't stand his sweaty hand. His hand repelled her as if it were a toad. She gave him a brutal shove and he fell against the wall.

Primera Memoria Chapter 6 Notes

Notes and Quotes

- After they had went to the church they went to the Mayors house.
- Lauro says that the younger Tarnoji brother did not have any official duty.
- The Mayor, his wife, the vicar and the local big shots of the town were all in attendance
- Matia says that her Grandmother and the Mayor were disdainful and silent
- They all stood together on the patio surrounding a table decorated with sparkling glassware
- Lauro stood apart and was being harassed by a couple of flies
- Matia says that the wine was horrible, it was wet and left her lips sticky
- Borja amd her looked at each other out the corner of there eyes and, he made a face, puckered his lips and pulled them down.
- Matias Grandmother asks about the grapevine plant that had been placed in the garden by the Mayors wife. Matia says that her grandmother asks about this vaguely enviously
- She says that when she was speaking to the mayor that the Taronjis tried to talk to Grandmother twice, but she pretended not to see them (ignored them)
- Lauro continued to stand apart from everyone else.
- Matia says that the mayors wife hovered around the table like a 'buzzing horse fly'
- Matia says that when her and Borja were sitting on the bench that there was a row of ants. She says that Borja killed them slowly, one by one. (This shows Borjas almost sociopathic, violent character here)
- The adults began to talk about the victory of the war
- She says that over the balcony the flag fell flaccidly, without any wind

- She says that voices sounded from behind the wall, but no one on the patio heard them
- When they looked over the wall, they saw three people walking down the road. Malene, her son Manuel and a little boy. Matia says that their shoes were covered in clay, and it looked as if they had come from some gloomy place.
- She says that for a moment they disappeared behind an evergreen oak tree, and then when they reappeared that they felt still as close as they did before they went behind the tree
- Matia says that they were wearing their usual clothes. And they were not in mourning
- As they were walking along the street, other people appear such as Guiems mother, the wife of the blacksmith, and two other women. She says that their voices began to raise shrilly (loudly or forcefully), but she says that Malene, Manuel and the little boy said nothing. She says that when they had walked past that silence was reborn. And Matia describes the silence being reborn in a strange and almost magical way.
- The three weren't even out of sight when the voices of the working people raised again and they said 'They ought to be ashamed exhibiting themselves like that' and 'Of course they couldn't have given him a Christian burial... They wouldn't dare'
- Borja said that their shoes were covered in clay, but they didn't bury him at a graveyard, so where could they have buried him.
- Matia says that the sun hurt her eyes,
- The sun is described a lot at the end of this chapter, Matia says that it turned green and ruby red

Part 2 Chapter 2 Primera Memoria Notes

Notes and Quotes

- Matia recalls the time she says a lambs head hanging on the door of the butchers.
- She then talks about Guiem and his gang and how they had stolen the hooks from the butchers and had put them under their shirts. She then says that they met them in the small plaza of Jews.
- She says that hidden between the rocks they threw stones at her, but not to hit her, but to provoke her.
- The gang then went to the woods, Borja, Juan Antonio went after them and had what Matia called an atrocious fight. Hurting one another cruelly.
- Matia says that it was a silent, merciless war that she couldn't comprehend. She said that the people getting damaged/hurt didn't bother her. But the fact that she could sense something dark in it, unnerved it.
- Juan Antonio was wounded by a hook. Matia says she can remember the blood running down between the black hairs of his legs. And that his lips were pressed together tightly so that he didn't cry.
- Borja helped him by putting a handkerchief soaked in sea water around his wound.
- She says that sometimes too Borja would emerge from battle with a few scratches.
- She says that Borja was a cautious and slippery as an eel. His carbine knife scared Guiem.
- The plaza of the Jews where Guiem gang had initiated the fight was in a old quarter of the town that had been destroyed by a fire many years ago.
- She uses the metaphor "the dazzling sea spread out below"
- She says that Jews where once burned alive in the plaza. Link to facist Nazi regime of ethnic cleansing.
- She says that the sea appeared to be full of terror

- Borja says that she had built her own island. And her and Borja were alone.
- She said often at night they would pound on the walls 3 times, then they slide silently get out of bed and they would cross through the hallways as silently as goblins and meet on the loggia/porch.
- They smoked in the silence.
- Borja then questions who will win the war. His argument is that his side (fascist) will win because they catholic and they believe in God. Matia says that she doesn't know who's going to win. And then she says that no one ever knows who's going to win.
- Matia says that Borja would often talk about the past and reminisce of what he had. He spoke of his land and of all his friends.
- Matia says that she listened without understanding very well
- Matia then thought of her fathers house, the orchard, the woods, the river.
- She says that they are so defenceless living under so much pressure.
- She then says how foreign are the race of adults. The race of men and women.
- She says that they are no longer children
- She then looks at her atlas and the places she likes of her uncle and her father are.
- She says that on this island that they feel lost. She says that no boats sailed past the coasts of the islands.

Part 2 Chapter 3 Primera Memoria Notes

Notes and Quotes

- The first thing Matia says is that Borja is a thief. She doesn't know how he became one. She thinks that maybe he was born with it.
- Borja stole from his mother and his grandmother skilfully. Matia says that he found a special pleasure in the danger of stealing.
- Their belief that he was innocent made stealing even easier for him
- Her aunt was careless when it came to placing money. She said "money goes so fast, it slips right through your fingers, I don't understand how"
- Matia gives a very detailed description on how exactly Borja steals money from his grandmothers metal tin box in such a way that she won't notice anything. He seems like a gifted criminal.
- Matias grandmother is very keen on her showing off her beauty. Stating that all a women has if she doesn't have any money is her beauty.
- Her grandparents said that Matias father was a man who was obsessed with distorted ideas. They also said that he wasted her mother's money and ruined the family life.
- Matias grandmother worried about her teeth. Think they were too big. She's very obsessed with the look of her granddaughter. Saying she's too thin, but she'll change and in a few years they won't able to recognise her. She also says that she's worried that she looks too much like her father.
- Her grandmother continues to go on about her appearance. Making mainly negative comments about the way that she looks.
- Matia then says that she was staring to hate her grandmother and wanted her to drop dead down.
- She says that if Borja wasn't there that she remained in her grandmothers clutches
- Uncle Alavaro wasn't native of the island. He used to say that we were "Navarresse"

- Matia says that Uncle As face was like the edge of a knife and that his mouth was like a twisted scar
- She doesn't like how the family has had to adapt to Juan Antonio fathers customs. Lying down after having a meal
- She says that the siesta hour of the day was her favourite
- She can recall the heat, but not even a single breeze was coming through the open window.
- Talks about the sun a lot when she's talking about Aunt Emilia's bedroom
- She says that there was something sweetish and almost decaying about the room

Part 2 Chapter 5 Primera Memoria Notes

Notes and Quotes

- First paragraph - Grandmother wants nothing to do with Matias father, shows that she doesn't want to be associated with a republican
- Says how parents are divorced and that she can't really remember living with them when they were together because she was so young
- She says that they sent her off to school and when she went back home they were never there. " Cuando volvía a casa, nunca estaban ellos" pg 134.
- She refers to the light and the sun a lot in these first few paragraphs.
- She says that Manuel was like a lost animal because he only listened to her didn't question anything that she was saying. "Como un animalillo perdido, igual que yo"pg 135.
- When she's telling Manuel about her early childhood she said that it all came back to her. She brings up the childhood books that her nanny Maurice read to her.
- Seems to me that Maurice was more of a mother than her actual mother was. Maurice was reading her all these stories and doing a lot for her. (Absent father)
- She said that her dad would send her packages.
- She said that she had a mad desire to stop him telling her about men and women because she doesn't want to know anything about the world she doesn't understand. "No, no me descubras más cosas, no me digas oscuras cosas de hombres y mujeres, porque no quiero saber nada del mundo que no entiendo"pg 136. This further emphasises that she doesn't have an understanding of the world in which lives. She seems to not be interested in the world she lives in.
- She says that she has to get him to love her. " tengo que conseguir que me quiera"pg138
- She says that she was afraid and fearful of the world that threatened Borja and her. What is this world she's on about?

- She tells Manuel that he's now on the outside. Away from the Taronji and the people in charge. She asks if he's afraid and he says "yes at times but it's not exactly fear". He said that what he feels is something like sorrow.
- She starts to question if Borja is bad and if she was bad. She said this caused her confusion
- She said that she wanted him to be a part of their world. Share their treasure in Young Simon. Then she says "But what did he have to do with all" and "What did he have to do with anyone in the world"
- Later on she says " What kind of monster am I that I no longer have my childhood, and am still far from being, in any way, a woman?" "Qué clase de monstruo que ya no tengo mi niñez y no soy, de ninguna manera, una mujer?" Pg140.

Part 3 Chapter 1 Primera Memoria Notes

Notes and Quotes

- Her grandmother says " The war ought not interrupt our daily life any further. War is a horrible thing". I find this surprising as the war is in her political views favour. The fascists.
- Her grandmother wants Matia and Borja to have sound preparation before they got to a new school, so they don't expose her to a new failure.
- Borja wants to throw Matia out of the gang, due to her affiliation with Manuel.
- Borja doesn't want to believe that Manuel isn't the son of Jose Taronji. She says that he was breaking down, fearing a name to be said. That name is Son Major.
- Matia says that it was the worst thing that she could have said to him (that Manuel was not Jose Taronji's son)
- Borja doesn't want to believe that it's true. His dream is coming crashing down, Son Major isn't the man he thought he was.
- Borja again in this chapter mentions that his dad can have men hung or shot. This shows the power that his dad possesses.
- At the end of the chapter, Lauro said that one day Borja will get into real trouble, he'll do something that he won't be able to hide from his Grandmother

Part 3 Chapter 2 Primera Memoria Notes and Quotes

Notes and Quotes

- The first line tells us about Borja reading a book about the burning of Jews
- The butcher said that he would kill anyone who stole his hooks again, Borja and his friends steal these hooks
- In this chapter, Matia realises that Lauro is just a boy, just a few years older than her
- In this chapter, Borja and his friends call Lauro "Judas", Biblical figure who betrayed Jesus.
- The mention of Lauro's secret appears again here in this chapter
- She said that she felt her first grown up pity in this chapter when she told Lauro not to pay attention to Borja and his friends because they are only arrogant children.
- When Borja went running into the forrest, it was Lauro who told hime not to take his carbine because the rival gang would kill him
- Matia says that Borja was begging her, she says that she thought he was going to cry, and that for the first time he seemed like more than a child than she did.
- Matia then tells him that Manuel is the son of Son Major. Borja says that he can't be because Son Major is blood family
- Matia says that Son Major had to sell off his love Malene (manuel's mother) so he could keep up appearances.

Part 4 Chapter 1 Primera Memoria Notes and Quotes

Notes and Quotes

- Grandmother isn't happy when she finds out that Borja and Matia had visited Son Major
- Matia gets drunk, and Grandmother knows. Aunt Emilia appears to cover Matias tracks by saying that she was sick, and was not like the other children. It says that Aunt Emilia tried very weakly to defend them.
- Borja calls Matia a pervert, because he believes that Matia has feelings for a 50 year old man (Son Major)
- Matia is sexist. She says that Borja is more perverted because he's a boy.
- Borja and Matia had a row, that ended up to be physical. Afterwards, Borja lit another cigarette and clenched his fist and was about to punch her, then he looked at her sadly. Matia caressed his head, as if he were still a boy.
- The morning after, during breakfast Grandmother bans Matia and Borja from going to Son Majors house.
- Grandmother says to Aunt Emilia, that they need to be more indulgent with the children because they haven't know any goo times because of what she describes as a disaster (the war)
- The emphasis again is on the idea that Matia isn't like others.
- In the last paragraph, Matia says that as she looked at Borja she thought he was not a man, but no longer a boy.

Part 4 Chapter 2 Primera Memoria Notes and Quotes

Notes and Quotes

- She begins talking about her and Manuel walking through an almond grove.
- Matia says that Son Major Jorge was a very good friend of hers, then she says that she's fearful of him, even though she's attracted to him
- She then describes the entire process of her holding hands with Manuel
- As Matia was kicked out of Borjas gang, she says to Borja that she now has to join Guiems gang. Borja says no and then says that it would appear that Guiem is switching sides to join their gang.
- To make Borja jealous she says how pretty Son Major is
- She says that she is all alone. Sense of loneliness
- She brings up a children's book here, questioning "Why does the little mermaid want an immortal soul so much?" This is her connection to her childhood and the books read to her by her nanny
- She says that she has to squeeze her chest with her hand when she says Jorge's name. Did she possibly love him?
- She's questioning whether or not she is feeling jealous because of Guiem looking at the contents of young Simon
- All the boys in the gang whistle at Malene as she walks back from town
- She asks Manuel to come with her to young Simon. At this point she realises that he will most likely go anywhere she asks him. Is he falling for her? Or is he being obedient, considering Matias family on the island.
- She says that some sort of gloomy, sadness came over her when she found out he was so attached to his family.
- She then says that she would rather have him estranged from the entire world, before knowing he was tied to someone who wasn't her.
- She says that her cowardliness is only compatible to her selfishness, this is because she never lets Manuel talk about himself

- When she heard Borja's voice, she went pale because she had exposed their secrets to Manuel
- She then realises that she's made Manuel come to the place his supposed father died
- When Borja came up to them Matia expected him to be furious, but it was the complete opposite. He was smiling, however Matia recognised the smile as being the one that he gave his grandmother every morning.
- Borja says that whoever told grandmother about young Simon will pay for it
- She says here that Manuel starts to look like Son major
- Matia also thought that with one blow, Manuel could knock Borja to the floor
- Borja asked Manuel to make money to someone called Mariné. He says that he should do it for him, because once Borja lent a boat to Manuel. To transport his father's dead body.
- When Manuel told Borja to shut up, Borja obeys. Could be scared of Manuel

Part 4 Chapter 3 Primera Memoria Notes and Quotes

Notes and Quotes

- For the first Christmas during a war, grandmother said it should be marked by sobriety
- Lauro is being sent to the front. He was meant to have been serving in the war, but couldn't based on medical grounds. But now according to grandmother, that doesn't matter now.
- She said that the happiness of toys vanished forever, (page 226 English Version). Link to loss of innocence.
- Matia was now classed as a woman as she was given a bottle of French perfume by her aunt Emilia.
- Matia said since the encounter with Manuel, Borja and herself that Borja treated her like grandmother and that they didn't fight anymore. He would give her the hollow look that he gave his grandmother.
- Borja believe that he has Matia in the palm of his hands. He then says that he has everyone else in his palms. And that she should know that by now. And that he knows everything that should be known.
- Borja and Matia argue over who will be sent to a reform school. It would appear that they are taunting each other about how will be sent to reform school.
- Borja said he was going to confess. He went to confess in the church. He dipped his finger in the holy water.
- Borja says that the chink (Lauro) will be killed at the front. Then a month later, they found out that Lauro had been killed at the front.
- After confessing in the church, Borja went to grandmother to confess as well. Borja began to cry, Matia describes his weeping as strange. He admits to his grandmother that he had been stealing money for him. She said, "was that you eh"
- Borja tells Grandmother that he had to keep taking the money because he was betting with someone, and the man kept asking for more money. Borja is making

up a story and said that this man beat him, and showed her the injury that he obtained from the hook at the butchers shop.

- Matia says near the end of the novel that Never-never land didn't exist, and that the Little Mermaid did not achieve an immortal soul because men and women do not love each other.
- She says she lost Gorogo, the teddy bear. This is a sign of the loss of innocence.
- The paragraph of the book says that they were crying on a Loggia, and she questions why anyone could cry that way

