

ENGLISH (FIRST FLIGHT) CHAPTER 01: A LETTER TO GOD

~ By: G. L. Fuentes
(Summary)

GLOSSARY

Crest	top of a hill
Harvest	season's yield of crop
Downpour	heavy rain
Intimately	thoroughly
Regarded	looked closely
Draped	dressed/ covered
Hailstones	frozen rain
Resemble	be similar
Exposing	uncovering, revealing
Plague	disease, disaster
Locust	insect
Solitary	lonely
Conscience	moral sense of right and wrong
Amicable	kind hearted
Tap	quick blow
Continent	remark
goodwill	friendly feeling
Resolution	determination
Contentment	satisfaction
Deny	refuse
Crook	a person who is dishonest or a criminal

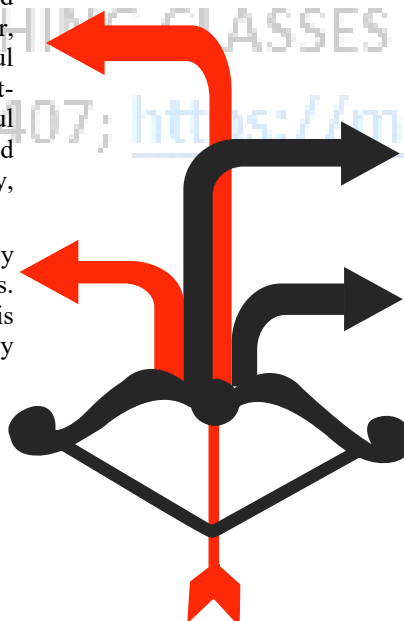
CHARACTER SKETCH

Lencho – He is the main character who is a poor but educated farmer lacking wisdom as depicted by the act when he expected money to be collected from God. Further, he lacks modesty when he is not thankful for the money received rather blamed postmasters. He is an optimist and faithful because he truly believes that God could help him and is committed to his family, farm and God.

Postmaster – Person with humanly thinking and respect for others' feelings. He possesses a gentle behavior which is depicted from his efforts to collect money for the farmer (Lencho) in need

Lencho's Family – Lencho has a wife who is committed towards family indicated by her act of preparing meal and he has few children of which elder ones are of working age while younger ones are of school going/ playing age

Post Office employees – They are considerate and helpful because they make every effort to help farmer (Lencho) and contributed money



About the Author – He was one of the greatest writers of that time. He was a Mexican poet, novelist and also journalist.

BRIEF SUMMARY

The story revolves around the idea of having unquestionable faith in God vis-à-vis the wisdom of human being. The story takes place in a Latin American country (depicted by the currency Pesos). Lencho, a farmer, who is the main character of the story, writes a letter to God. In the letter, he seeks help from the God when he found that his entire crop yield is destroyed by a devastating hailstorm. The Postman who read his strange letter understood his situation and took efforts to help him by collecting some amount from the fellow colleagues and self-contribution. Despite of helping the poor farmer, the postman was disheartened when he discovered that Lencho questioned the honesty of postmen in the next letter he wrote to God. Ungratefulness at Lencho's end shows his lack of modesty towards the post-masters who genuinely helped him when it was most needed.



DETAILED SUMMARY

This story is written by G L Fuentes who explained different emotions like faith of a poor farmer in God, kindness of postmen and lack of gratitude when the wishes of farmer are partially fulfilled.

Seeking help from God

The story starts with a poor though educated and dedicated farmer named Lencho in a Latin American country. He was expecting a decent harvest but a hail storm came and destroyed his harvest completely which made him feel sad. However, he had a strong belief in God and he was certain that God would help him. Since he knew writing, he decided to write a letter to God in which he demanded 100 pesos from the God. He himself went to the post office and put his letter into the post box. Lencho also wishes to repay the debt when the next crop would give him enough money.



Postmen lend help

When this strange letter was seen by the postman, he laughed initially but soon realized the seriousness of the situation and deeply touched by the faith of Lencho in God. Postman then decided to help Lencho by contributing some money from his pocket as well as collecting some from his fellow colleagues. In all, they contributed 70 pesos to help Lencho without intimating him about themselves.

Lencho's reaction

When the Lencho received this amount, instead of being happy he was sad to see the lesser amount than what he requested for. He knew that God can't do the mistakes, so through another letter addressed to God he questioned the honesty of post-masters by blaming them as crooked or corrupt and requested God not to send the money through mail correspondence.

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Conclusion

It is concluded from the story that faith has the power to give us what we want, to fulfil our needs however, one must realize that humanity still prevails and be thankful for whatever help is offered by anyone.

