***THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET.* INTRODUCTION**

Have a look at the following quotes taken from the introduction to “The House on Mango Street” by Sandra Cisneros. Think about them for a while and comment on them. Bring your comments to class to talk about them.

1. “When **she** lived at home, the things she looked at scolded her and made her feel sad and depressed. They said, ”Wash me”. They said “Lazy”. They said, “You ought.” But the things in her office are magical and invite her to play” (p xii)

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1. “When she thinks to herself in her father´s language, she knows sons and daughters don´t leave their parents´house until they marry. When she thinks in English, she knows she should´ve been on her own since eighteen”. (p xiii)

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1. “But after a few months, when the big brother upstairs turned out to be Big Brother…”

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1. “….. The mother doesn´t object. She knows what it is to live a life filled with regrets, and she doesn´t her daughter live that life too” (p xiv)

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1. “She wants to write stories that ignore borders between genres, between written and spoken, between highbrow literature and children´s nursery rhymes, between New York and the imaginary village of Macondo, between US and Mexico” (p xvi-xvii)

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1. “….. people who are busy working deserve beautiful little stories, because they don´t have much time and are often tired”. (p xvii)

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1. “The young woman works…….earn money” (pxviii). What image of the USA is she describing? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. “It is in keeping with my philosophy”. (p xix) Explain this quote and relate it to what comes before and after.

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1. “She´s afraid of going to the movies alone, and that´s why she´s decided to go. Because she´s afraid”. (p xx)

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1. “This is my house. Bliss” (p xxv)

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After reading the introduction to this book, what have you learnt about the writer, her family background, her likes and dislikes, her fears, her vision of art and literature, her friends and colleagues, her writing style…?