

New York Was Our City on the Hill

- 1) Life was so hard in America for Danticat's parents at first because they were African immigrants that at that time in American history weren't even considered human. So making enough money didn't come easy.
- 2) Faustian bargain is when a human decides to sell their soul to the devil in exchange for whatever they want. In the story I believe that it was not a fair offer for the children because it basically left them with no choice but to consider it.
- 3) Uncle Joseph's view on New York differed from the children because he considered that no matter where the "malere", where the future was not a given, and that "it was something to be clawed from the edge of despair with sweat and blood(74)." While the children believed that New York is where they belong and meant to be.
- 4) Danticat noticed when she first came to America at the age twelve, that all immigrants that worked, worked more hours than the citizen but yet got paid less. This that Danticat realized is really common in America and still today goes on. I personally believe that it is not fair because everybody struggles because they're human, and everybody should be treated that way.
- 5) I feel that success is the most important thing. If a child chooses to reject a parent's dreams for them to succeed their way then, the child should find a way to give back to their parents and succeed their own way.
- 6) The difference between an immigrant and transnational is that an immigrant is someone that sticks with their culture while a transnational is people that will live their lives in one place, according to one set of national and cultural norm. Danticat's parents chose to be transnational because they find that New York was where they belong and the culture pulls them closer.
- 7) Danticat's father's American experience worsens after 9/11 because terrorism was strong in the eyes of the Americans.
- 8) The connection to the start of the story to the end where Uncle Joseph gets shot due to gang violence, clearly shows the results of the Haitian war.

- 9) The title states New York being Danticat's City "on the hill" which shows how Danticat felt before about the City being on top of the hill rather on the bottom, it shows a sense of accomplishment but in the past tense as if that's what they thought.