Talking Points 3 Paradise

**Solita’s Relationship with other children**

These children are rich and have a higher status that makes them react to the three girls and Solita in a belittling and loss-of-face way. They all become very competitive with each other and its not surprising at all how Solita tries to get in line with them. The way the Patricia had to pick on Solita to show her position on the “higher end” of the children is disgusting and unfair. It was uplifting to see how Solita sought and got her revenge. Although all of this seems childish, these types of things were reflective of the adults. These children learned what they know from them.

**Pilar and Armando**

The sudden marriage of these two was disturbing. I feel that Pilar was being very inconsiderate by placing all those facts on Solita about her father and thinking that she was going to be happy when she really wasn’t. It bothered me the most that Pilar used Solita to try to charm Armando into liking her. Solita lied and went against her desires, which is something a mother should not encourage.

**Gypsy’s fortune for Solita: cross the ocean and find love**

This was Solita’s way of making her own decisions and deciding her future. She did not want to go with her mom, and now that her father went down on her ladder as her mother told her about his side distractions, she sort of had to make her own way. By ending the story this way, we can conclude that Solita has sort of grown up and is ready to face her future, in her own way.

**Patricia’s change of heart, the girls’ secret**

**Jaime Idarrazabal’s carrot**