

Dreaming of the Harvest

Read to see how Rosa's garden is doing.

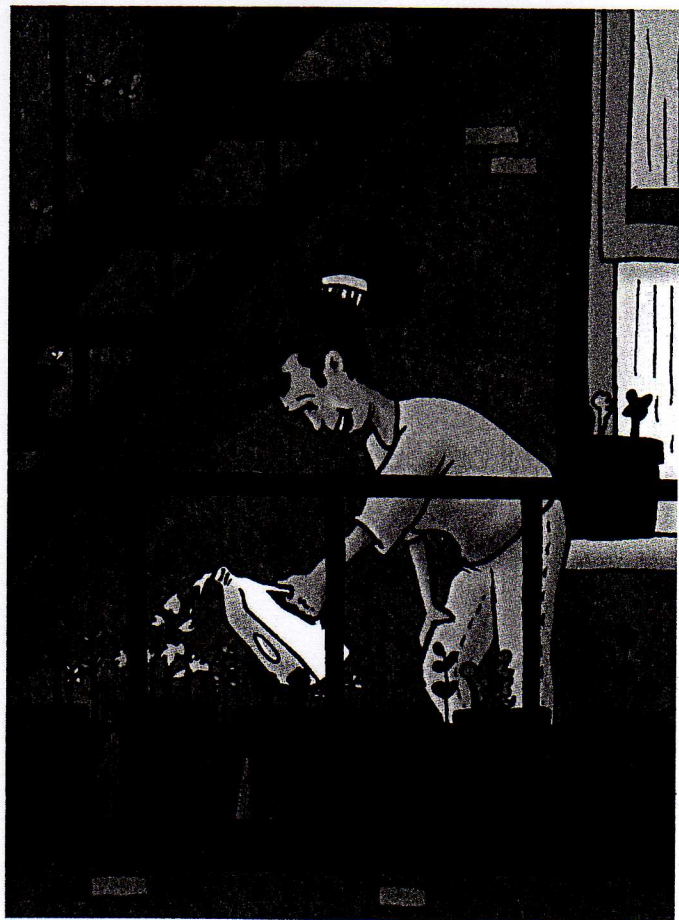
¹ Rosa hurried home from work. She knew it had been quite warm that day, and it hadn't rained since last week. She was worried that her tiny seedlings might have gotten too much sun. When she got to her building, she raced up the stairs, two at a time, up to the third floor.

² Rosa was still panting when she stepped out onto the fire escape. *Oh, you poor things!* was all she could think. Even her strongest, tallest tomato plant looked as if it had just given up. It was pale and dry looking, not green and smooth like it had been this morning. Rosa got her watering can and went right to work. She watered each pot until it began to drip out the holes in the bottom. She made sure each plant got just the right amount. Then, she went in to fix something to eat.

³ In the kitchen, Rosa bit into an apple and imagined that it was a big, juicy tomato. She chopped a carrot and imagined that it was a shiny, green pepper getting ready to join some tomatoes in a pot of rich, spicy sauce.

⁴ She carried her dinner out to the fire escape. The apartment building across the street cast its shadow on her garden, letting it rest from the day's hot sun. Rosa leaned against the wall and closed her eyes. She let her hard day of work at the factory fade away as she imagined taking her flowers to her friends at work. Just think how surprised they would be. They would think she had robbed the flower shop!

⁵ Rosa watched her garden grow until after dark. Then, she went inside and dreamed of running her own shop filled with trays of fresh vegetables and baskets of flowers fresh from her own garden.



Vocabulary Skills

Write the words from the story that have these meanings.

1. young plants

_____ Par. 1

2. breathing hard

_____ Par. 2

3. not rough

_____ Par. 2

A word without an ending is a **base** word. Circle the base word in each of the words below.

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 4. landing | 5. watered |
| 6. chopped | 7. flowers |
| 8. baskets | |

The suffix **-est** means "most." So, *tallest* means "most tall." Add the suffix **-est** to each word to change its meaning.

9. strong _____
10. high _____

Reading Skills

1. Why is Rosa worried about her plants on this day?

Write **T** if the sentence is true. Write **F** if the sentence is false.

2. _____ This story is mostly about Rosa worrying about her garden.
3. _____ Rosa is careless about her garden.
4. _____ Rosa plans to share her flowers with others.
5. _____ Too much sun causes Rosa's plants to dry up.

Compare how things really are with how they used to be, or with what Rosa imagines.

6. The strongest, tallest tomato plant is _____
 It had been _____
7. Rosa bites into an _____
 She imagines that it is a _____
8. She chops a _____
 She imagines that it is a _____
9. For now, Rosa works at a _____
 She dreams of _____