

# Serafina's Stories

Rudolfo Anaya

Background: The Novel *Serafina's Stories* is made up of multiple plots, characters and settings, much like the *Tales of a Thousand and One Arabian Nights* in which Sherezad's stories are told within the story of Sherezad and the Sultan. Serafina's tales are woven together by the story of Serafina and the Governor.

## Step I: Background Readings

1. Together Read the epilogue to *Serafina's Stories* page 199-202
2. Working with a peer complete Comparison chart of Religious Beliefs.  
Peer 1: Read Pueblo Beliefs (page 63, \*The Great Convergence: The Pueblo and Spaniards Meet). Complete Moral Obligations, Personal Identity and World View for Pueblos (page 65\*)  
Peer 2: Read Catholic Beliefs (page 64\*). Complete Moral Obligations, Personal Identity and World View for Pueblos (page 65\*)  
Peer Share. Collectively complete entire chart

## Step II: Introduction to the Novel

1. Together read Chapter 1: Serafina & The Governor. While you are reading, focus on sensory imagery (sight, sound, taste, touch and smell). When finished collectively complete the questions listed in the Chapter 1 Summaries, (see page 3 that follows).
2. Together read, Chapter 2: Juan del Oso. When finished draw a picture that best encapsulates what happened in the tale and complete the questions that follow (see page 5-6 that follows).

## Step III: Book in a Day Novel

- Group A: Read Chapter 3 Serafina & the Governor pgs 23-29. Answer the questions that on pg 4. When finished Read Chapter 4 "Miranda's Gifts". Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.
- Group B: Read Chapter 5 Serafina & the Governor pgs 39-45 Answer the questions that on pg 4 When finished Read Chapter 6 "The Adventures of Pedro de Ordimalas". Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.
- Group C: Read Chapter 7 Serafina & the Governor pgs 54-62. Answer the questions that on pg 4. When finished Read Chapter 8 "Fabiano & Reyes". Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.
- Group D: Read Chapter 9 Serafina & the Governor pgs 69-75. Answer the questions that on pg 4. When finished Read Chapter 10 "The Devil's Godchild". Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.
- Group E: Read Chapter 11 Serafina & the Governor pgs 85-92. Answer the questions that on pg 4. When finished Read Chapter 12 "Marcos and Maria". Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.
- Group F: Read Chapter 13 Serafina & the Governor pgs 101-109. Answer the questions that on pg 4. When finished Read Chapter 14 "Two Compadres". Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.

- Group G: Read Chapter 15 Serafina & the Governor pgs 117-124. Answer the questions that on pg 4. When finished Read Chapter 16 “The Tree That Sings”. Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.
- Group H: Read Chapter 17 Serafina & the Governor pgs 132-139. Answer the questions that on pg 4.. When finished Read Chapter 18 “The Native”. Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.
- Group I: Read Chapter 19 Serafina & the Governor pgs 145-151. Answer the questions that on pg 4. When finished Read Chapter 20 “Belda and the Beast” Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.
- Group J: Read Chapter 21 Serafina & the Governor pgs 156-169. Answer the questions that on pg 4. When finished Read Chapter 22 “El Picaro”. Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.
- Group K: Read Chapter 23 Serafina & the Governor pgs 170-180. Answer the questions that on pg 4. When finished Read Chapter 24 “The Native Lawyer”. Complete the activities and questions on pg 7-8.

### Step IV: Book in a Day Novel

1. Together Read Chapter 25
2. When finished individually complete the questions that follow, be prepared to share your answers.

Why do you think Serafina choose the specific tales she choose to tell the Governor?

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What do Serafina’s stories reveal about native culture? About European culture? How each perceives the other?

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What portion(s) of Serafina and the Governor’s story (as opposed to Serafina’s tales) did you most appreciate (like)? Explain. Which portion(s) did you like least? Explain

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## Chapter Summaries: Serafina and the Governor

Instructions: Read your assigned chapter(s) detailing the story of Serafina and the Governor, when finished; answer the questions related to your assigned chapter.

### Chapter 1

Characters: Who were the primary characters in the Chapter? Use 3-5 adjectives, or short phrases to describe each.

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Setting: Where does the story take place? What is the setting like? Use 3-5 adjectives, or short phrases to describe the setting.

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Plot: In less than 50 words (1/3-1/2 page) describe what happened in the chapter, i.e. why, what, where, when, why.

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## Chapter Summaries: Serafina and the Governor

Instructions: Read your assigned chapter(s) detailing the story of Serafina and the Governor, when finished; answer the questions related to your assigned chapter.

Assigned Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Characters: Who were the primary characters in the Chapter? Use 3-5 adjectives, or short phrases to describe each.

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Setting: Where does the story take place? What is the setting like? Use 3-5 adjectives, or short phrases to describe the setting.

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Plot: In less than 50 words (1/3-1/2 page) describe what happened in the chapter, i.e. why, what, where, when, why.

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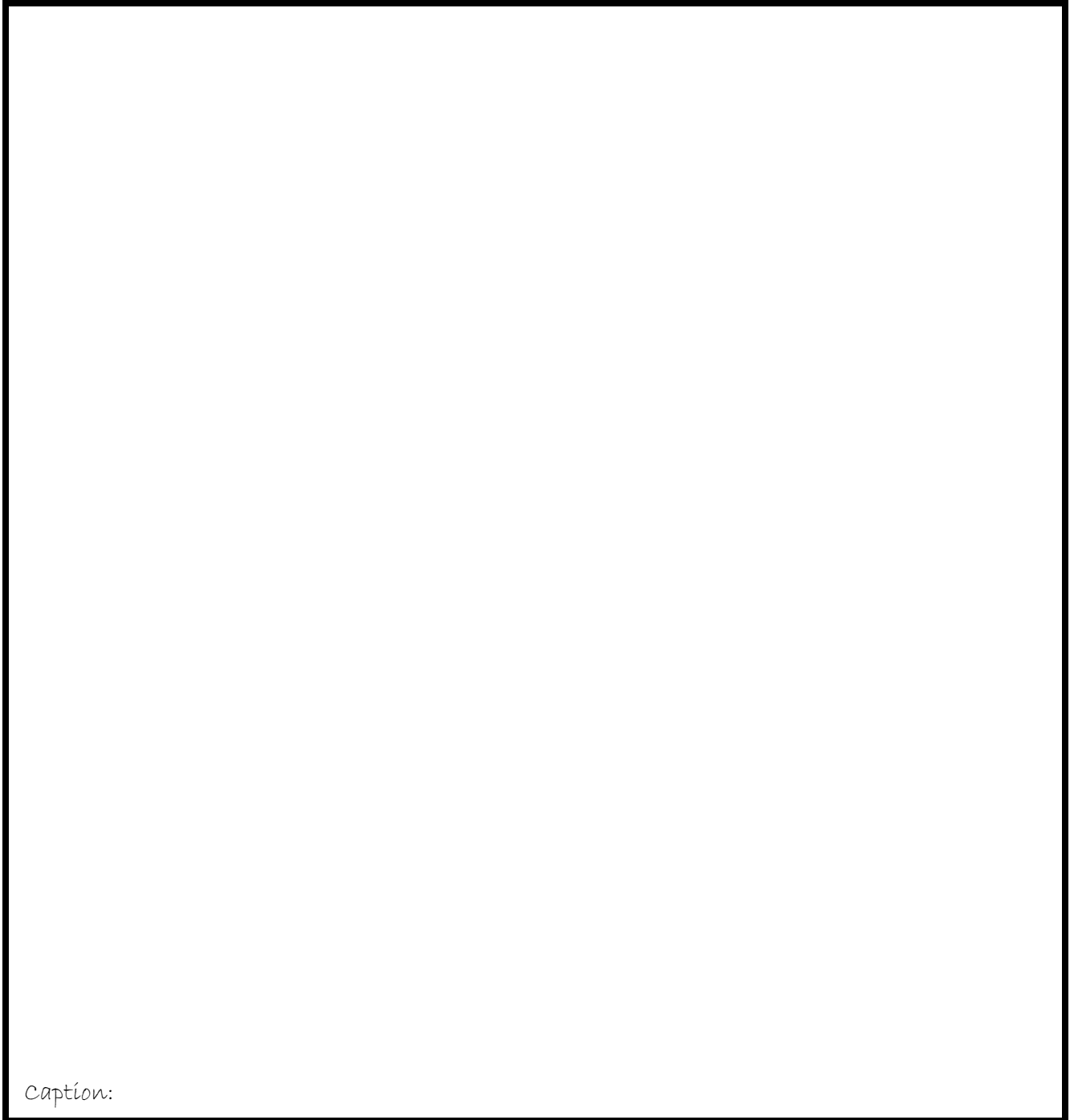
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Tale Summary  
Title of Tale: Juan del Oso

Instructions: Read your assigned chapter, telling the tales told by Serafina to the Governor, when finished; draw a picture (in the space provided) that best encapsulates what happened in the tale and complete the questions that follow.



Caption:

**Tale Summary Questions**  
**Title of Tale: Juan del Oso**

**Characters:** Who were the primary characters in the Chapter? Use 2-3 adjectives, or short phrases to describe each.

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**Setting:** Where does the story take place? What is the setting like? Use 2-3 adjectives, or short phrases to describe the setting.

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**Plot:** In less than 50 words (1/4-1/3) describe what happened in the chapter, i.e. why, what, where, when, why.

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**Compare & Contrast:** Is Serafina's "story" similar or different to any other story(s)? Which? Explain how they are different, i.e. who, what where when why.

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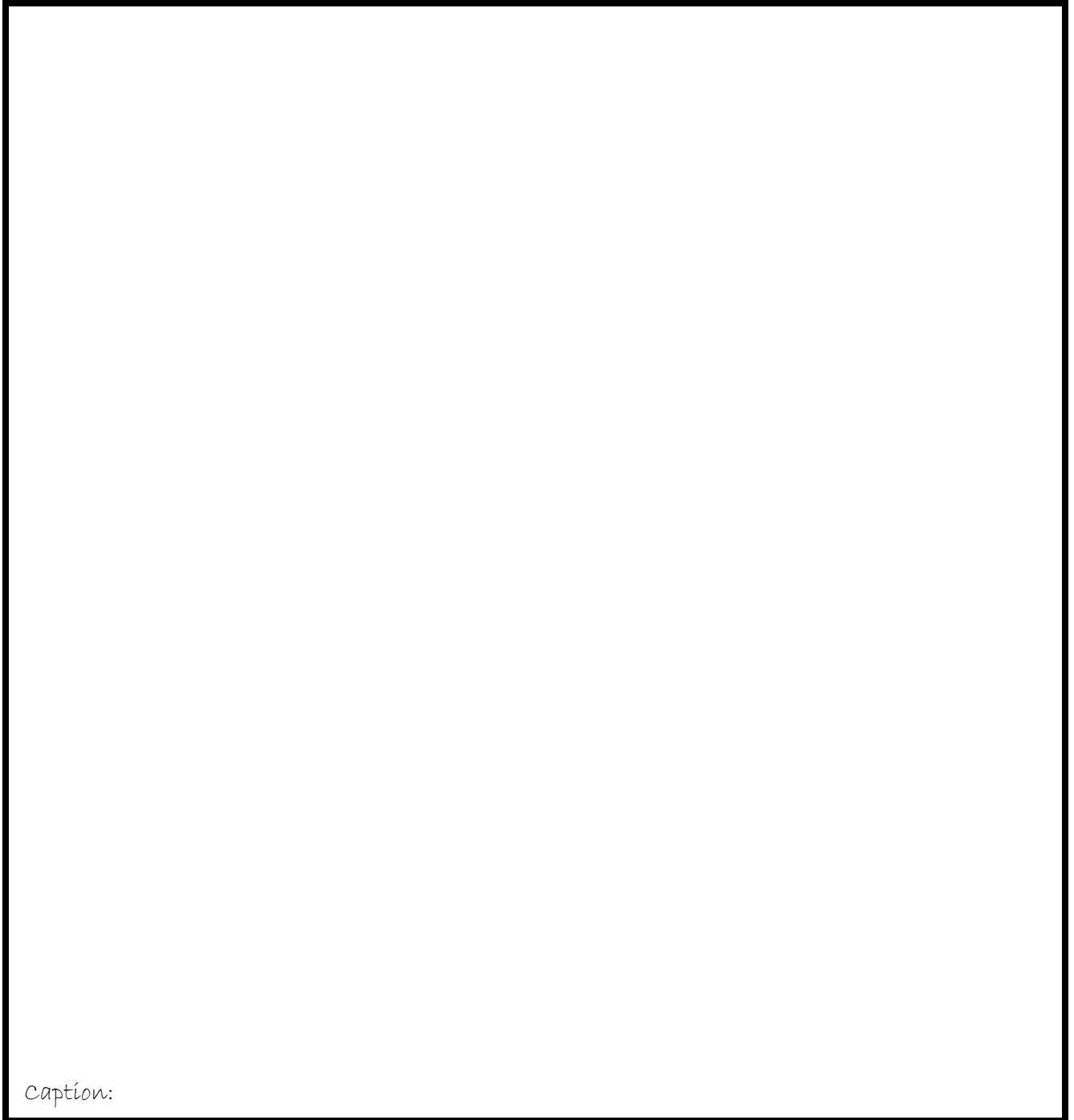
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## Tale Summary

Title of Tale: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Read your assigned chapter, telling the tales told by Serafina to the Governor, when finished; draw a picture (in the space provided) that best encapsulates what happened in the tale and complete the questions that follow.



Caption:

## Tale Summary Questions

Title of Tale: \_\_\_\_\_

Characters: Who were the primary characters in the Chapter? Use 2-3 adjectives, or short phrases to describe each.

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Setting: Where does the story take place? What is the setting like? Use 2-3 adjectives, or short phrases to describe the setting.

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Plot: In less than 50 words (1/4-1/3) describe what happened in the chapter, i.e. why, what, where, when, why.

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Compare & Contrast: Is Serafina's "story" similar or different to any other story(s)? Which? Explain how they are different, i.e. who, what where when why.

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