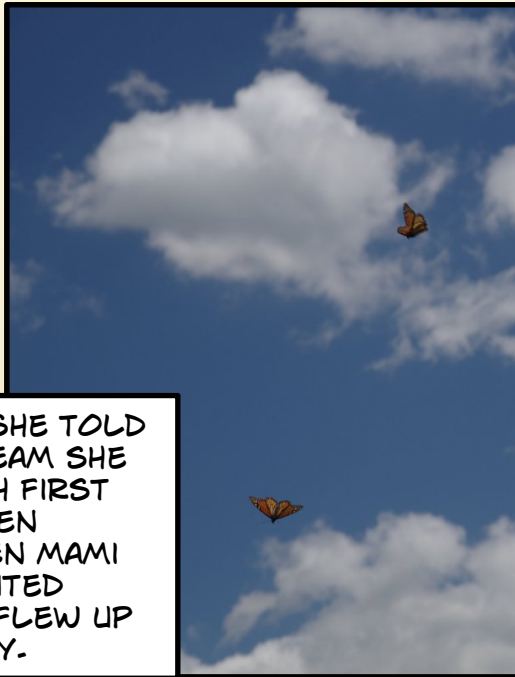


Chapter 6: Operation Maid



RECENTLY, SHE TOLD ME OF A DREAM SHE HAD IN WHICH FIRST LUCINDA, THEN MUNDIN, THEN MAMI AND I SPROUTED WINGS AND FLEW UP INTO THE SKY.



LUCINDA BURSTS OUT CRYING THE MINUTE SHE REALIZES THE ROSES ARE FROM EL JEFE.



PAPI COMES BACK FROM THE WASHBURNS' WITH NEWS OF A PLAN THE CONSUL HAS THOUGHT UP. THEY ARE CALLING IT OPERATION MAID. FRIENDS IN WASHINGTON WHO WILL BE STATIONED IN COLOMBIA HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO CAN TEACH THEIR CHILDREN SOME SPANISH. WHY NOT SEND LUCINDA?



THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT MURDERING EL JEFE!

I FEEL SO SAD TO BE LOSING MY SISTER JUST WHEN WE'RE GETTING CLOSER.



"CONGRATULATIONS," SHE SAYS, LEANING OVER AND KISSING ME. "MY BABY SISTER'S A SEÑORITA."



IT'S SO UNFAIR TO HAVE TO LIVE IN A COUNTRY WHERE YOU HAVE TO DO STUFF YOU FEEL BAD ABOUT IN ORDER TO SAVE YOUR LIFE.



MINUTES LATER, CHUCHA IS AT THE DOOR WITH THE NEWS THAT LORENA IS PACKING HER THINGS AND ALSO LEAVING THE HOUSE.