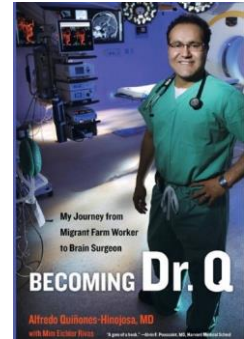


Discussion Guide

Becoming Dr. Q

By Alfredo Quiñones-Hinojos, M.D.

1. What important role does Dr. Q's grandmother, Nana Maria, play in his life? And his grandfather, Tata Juan? What role have your own grandparents played in your life?
2. As a boy Dr. Q associates himself with the fictional comic book character, Kalimán. What purpose does Kalimán serve?
3. Dr. Q spends a summer with his family in Mendota, California where is Uncle Faustus is foreman on a farm. What impact does this experience have on his life?
4. At one point in his young life, Dr. Q tried to cross the border from Mexico to the U.S. on a lark and was denied.
5. What do you think drove Dr. Q to attempt going into the United States for a second time, even after being caught by the border patrol the first time?
6. In 1989, while working, a major event occurred in Dr. Q's life. What was this event and how did this experience change his life?
7. As the first in his family to go to college, Dr. Q's education took many twists and turns and he had many mentors. Who are the people in your life who have served as mentors and in what ways did they help you?
8. At Harvard Medical School, Dr. Q observes, "I felt history scrutinizing me." What do you think he means by this?
9. Dr. Q achieved his American Dream through sacrifice, risk-taking and hard work. Do you believe in the American Dream? Why or why not? What is your personal "recipe" for success?
10. After reading his memoir, what question would you want to ask Dr. Q?
11. What do you think is the biggest sacrifice Dr. Q has made in his life during his career as a neurosurgeon?



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