

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

HISTORY

- How do historical events—particularly, Philippine colonial history, World War II, and Philippine political history in the eighties and nineties shape Angel’s understanding of self, family, and her own possibilities?
- How does the Filipino language of Tagalog, used in this book, create new ways of understanding Philippine history and culture, and Angel’s own family culture?

HOME

- Where is “home” for Angel? How does this change over the course of the novel? How do movement, migration, and challenges associated with these moves shape Angel’s identity and her family?
- How does Angel react to the different spaces she finds herself in, and the community she is surrounded by—in the Philippines and in the United States?

HEALING

- How do Angel and her family heal from the moments of trauma that they face throughout the book? How do the Lolas heal from the trauma of their experiences during World War II?
- Angel is a budding healer in a long line of healers. What is the role of spirituality and faith in their healing process?

HEART

- Angel experiences heartbreak early with the death of her father. What role does love and heartbreak play in Angel's life? How does this shape her character?
- How is she transformed by love?

HOPE

- How do Angel de la Luna and her family find hope amid the despair in their lives?
- From this novel, what can we learn about hope that can be applied to our own lives?

These guiding questions were developed by Dr. Allyson Tintiango Cubales, professor of ethnic studies, and Dr. Dawn Mabalon, professor of history. They are both faculty members at San Francisco State University and part of Pin@y Educational Partnerships. For more information and a complete curriculum for *Angel de la Luna* in the classroom, please visit mevelinagalang.com.