

bushes. They sprint alongside the train and reach for the ladders on the freight cars.

Sometimes train drivers back up the locomotive and get a running start. They accelerate to prevent migrants from reboarding up ahead. This time, though, the train isn't going full throttle.

Enrique climbs up onto a hopper. The train picks up speed. For the moment, he relaxes.

### WAITING IN HONDURAS

Meanwhile, Enrique's girlfriend, María Isabel, is sure Enrique hasn't really left Honduras. This is all a joke, she thinks. He has probably gone to visit a friend. He'll be back any day.

A couple of weeks after he disappears, María Isabel realizes it is no joke.

María Isabel knows Enrique longed to be with his mother. He spoke often of going north to be with Lourdes. Still, how could he leave her? What if he is harmed or killed crossing Mexico? What if she never sees him again?

Tearfully, she prays he will be caught and deported back to Honduras, back by her side.

She doesn't feel well and loses weight. She quits night school. What if she *is* pregnant and Enrique dies trying to make it to his mother? Then she will be alone, raising their child.

She makes a plan to follow Enrique north, to find him in Mexico or in the United States. But she has no money. She fears being assaulted or raped. Her family scolds her. "Are you