

May 23rd - 5 minutes 27 seconds

One afternoon while she is driving around, Minerva sees Papá's car parked outside of a campesino's house. Minerva starts driving back by this house occasionally, and sometimes four little girls run out into the driveway and beg for mints from her. Minerva notes that they have "Mirabal eyes," and she asks them who their father is. They go silent. She asks if they have a brother, and Minerva feels "delicious revenge" when they say no. Their mother comes out and eyes Minerva suspiciously before she drives off.

May 24th - 5 minutes 20 seconds

Minerva says that she didn't know what she wanted during those years at home, and she felt like she was asleep. When she met Lío it was like waking up. She tried to decide which was more important – revolution or romance – but deep down she desired both. She wasn't in love with Lío, but she was still hurt when he left without saying goodbye.

For Dedé, Virgilio was a life-changing romance, but for Minerva he is someone to share her revolutionary ideas while she is trapped at home.

May 25th - 5 minutes 38 seconds

One day Minerva picks the lock of Papá's armoire while he is away. Inside she finds four letters addressed to her from Lío. She reads them eagerly, and he mentions his invitation to seek asylum with him. By the fourth letter he accepts that Minerva has denied his proposal. Minerva feels that she has missed a great opportunity, and that her

life would have been “nobler” with Lío. She suddenly grows angry at Papá, blaming him for everything.

Minerva compares her life trapped at home, unable to affect any real change, with the glamorous life of a political outlaw, and she gets very angry. Dedé also tried to “protect” Minerva by burning Virgilio’s letter, but protection through ignorance is another kind of cage.

May 26th - 5 minutes 49 seconds

Later Papá gets invited to a party thrown by Trujillo himself, and there is a special request that Minerva appear as well. Mamá is frightened by this, as she worries that Trujillo now desires Minerva. She agrees to let Minerva attend if Patria, Dedé, Pedrito, and Jaimito all go too. María Teresa cries and wants to go, but Minerva promises to bring her back a souvenir. At the last party she attended, Minerva brought her back a paper fan with Trujillo’s face on one side and the Virgin on the other. Minerva kept making María Teresa turn the fan around, as Minerva couldn’t stand either face depending on her mood.

A week before the party, Minerva invites herself along when Papá is running “errands.” He promises he isn’t involved with the woman anymore, but only goes to see his children. Minerva says she wants to meet them, and he is clearly moved. He agrees to take her, and he introduces Minerva to the little girls. They and their mother now live in a new house in a nicer neighborhood.

May 27th - 5 minutes 15 seconds

On the day of Trujillo's party the family is an hour late, as they get lost and Jaimito (who is driving) doesn't want to ask for directions. They are afraid that their lateness will make Trujillo angry. It is raining hard, and Minerva has a theory that the old Mayan storm god always "acts up" around Discovery Day (the occasion for the party), which celebrates the conquistador Columbus.

The family reaches the mansion's entrance and are greeted by Manuel de Moya, Trujillo's "secretary of state" whose real job is finding pretty girls for El Jefe. Luckily Trujillo is late as well, so the Mirabals are escorted inside without incident. Everyone sits down, but Manuel tells Minerva that she has been invited to sit at El Jefe's table. Dedé silently reminds Minerva not to drink anything she is offered, as there have been stories of young women being drugged and then raped by Trujillo. Then Trujillo enters, and Minerva raises her glass in a "reckless toast."

May 28th - 5 minutes 38 seconds