

Directions

Read this story. Then answer questions 19 through 25.

“Salvador’s Wallet”

by Mari LaFore

- 1 It was spring break for Dustin and a good day for an adventure. The railroad tracks looked endless so he decided to follow them. The sky was Easter egg blue. The fluffy clouds reminded Dustin of his favorite frosting, vanilla. The shiny, golden sun bounced happily in the sky.
- 2 “What is that in the grass?” he wondered. Was it a gigantic rock, or maybe a big, brown, sleeping turtle? He bent down to investigate!
- 3 “A wallet!” he exclaimed as he picked it up and peeked inside. It was full of all kinds of stuff! And a tiny photo of twin boys.
- 4 “Somebody lost this, I’ll bet! Mom will know what to do!” Off Dustin ran to their apartment.
- 5 “Well, let’s just look inside and see who owns this wallet,” Dustin’s mom, Marisa, said cheerfully. They emptied it onto their kitchen table and searched for a clue. There it was, a note written in crayon!
- 6 “We love you, Dad!—Carlos and Hugo.”
- 7 “This must be a wonderful man. His boys love him very much,” remarked Dustin’s mom.
- 8 “Look, mom, this picture must be of them and they look like they are my age. I wonder if they live around here,” Dustin said aloud as his excitement grew. Then they saw another clue, a driver’s license and now they knew the owner of that old, brown wallet was named Salvador!
- 9 “This card says their address is far away in a different city,” said his mom sadly. Now what would they do?

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10 Finally they found the best clue of all; a phone number on the back of Salvador's shiny, silver credit card.

11 "I will contact Salvador for you with the good news," said the kind lady who answered the phone.

12 The very next day Dustin's doorbell rang and when Dustin and Marisa answered the door, there stood a smiling man who introduced himself as Salvador!

13 "Thank you, Dustin. You are a fine young man," he said as he shook Dustin's hand, "I rode the train to my job here in your city and my wallet fell out of my pocket. I thought I would never see it again! My sons will be happy to meet you. We are coming here to spend the day at Rocket Land tomorrow, and I would like you and your mom to come with us if you can."

14 "That will be just fine," smiled Dustin's proud mother.

15 "Yeah, that sounds great! I can't wait to meet Carlos and Hugo," grinned Dustin as he said good-bye to Salvador.

16 "You did the right thing, sweetheart," his mom said softly as he ran into the kitchen just in time to see her putting the last bit of his favorite vanilla frosting on a big, chocolate cake and reaching out to give him a "proud mom" hug.

17 "Thanks mom! This has been the best adventure ever!"

18 The very next day Dustin and his mom heard their doorbell chiming loudly.

19 Dustin peeked through his living room window and there stood four smiling people and one tiny, excited Chihuahua dog.

20 "I'll get it," exclaimed Dustin as he ran and opened their front door.

21 "Hello, my friend," Salvador said to Dustin, "I would like you to meet my wife, Emerita, and my sons, Carlos and Hugo, and our dog, Chica. She's also excited to go to Rocket Land. We take her with us every year." Chica yipped loudly and jumped into the air when she heard her name.

22 “Please come in,” said Dustin’s mom. “We are ready to leave and I have packed us all snacks to eat on the way there. Now, what should I put in for Chica?”

23 “Don’t worry, we have plenty of doggie snacks for her in our van,” laughed Salvador.

24 “I baked cochinos and churros, and biscochitos for us too,” said Emerita. “They are delicious cookies and they are loved by everyone in our country.”

25 “I want to sit in the back seat with Hugo and Carlos,” said Dustin as he grabbed his jacket. Emerita and Marisa nodded their approval and the group climbed into the blue van headed for Rocket Land.

26 “Salvador’s wallet sure seems to be a magic friend maker,” smiled Marisa as they happily drove away.

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19 How does the author organize the information in paragraphs 5 through 10?

- A by comparing each item that Dustin pulls out of the wallet
- B by giving the reasons why Dustin must search for the wallet's owner
- C by listing the order of events that lead to Dustin finding the wallet
- D by showing how the clues cause Dustin to find the wallet's owner

20 What do the details in paragraph 13 reveal about Salvador?

- A His belongings often get lost on the train.
- B He enjoys visiting the city where Dustin lives.
- C He is grateful for Dustin's act of kindness.
- D His family is very important to him.

21 Which statement **best** explains why Dustin claims, "This has been the best adventure ever!" in paragraph 17?

- A Dustin's actions lead to an invitation to Rocket Land with Salvador's family.
- B Marisa is proud and makes Dustin's favorite cake to celebrate.
- C Dustin has made the day pass quickly by searching for the owner of the wallet.
- D Salvador's wallet has many clues to help Dustin solve the mystery.

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22 What does the word “approval” suggest as used in paragraph 25?

- A Everyone is ready to leave for Rocket Land.
- B Dustin is allowed to sit with Hugo and Carlos.
- C The boys may eat the snacks Emerita has baked.
- D The blue van will take everyone to Rocket Land.

23 Which sentence **best** states a theme of the story?

- A The best mysteries are solved using teamwork.
- B People in different cities can have a lot in common.
- C Helping others can bring surprising rewards.
- D Pets are important for bringing families together.

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24 This question is worth 2 credits.

What do the details in paragraphs 14 and 16 show about Dustin's mother? Use **two** details from the story to support your response.

25 This question is worth 2 credits.

Many people believe that it is important to do the right thing even if no one is watching. How do Dustin's actions in the story support this idea? Use **two** details from the story to support your response.

STOP