

**Curative Shorts**  
***The Handsomest Drowned Man In the World***  
**By Gabriel Garcia Marquez**  
**Questions**

*Special Note: These questions are written to spark your imagination and bring you into a curative experience with reading in community. When we spark our imaginations, we become inspired, and it is from this place that we can begin to see new doorways of possibility open to us as we move through challenging change. Questions are also meant to deepen your understanding of the story and its curative aspects for you, others and the world around you. Your answers do not have to be shared with the group and can remain just for you.*

Describe the details of place in this story that are memorable to you including the environment and details about the land where the dead man has washed ashore.

Write down one question you would like to ask the *Curative Readers* about this story.

How did the village know so soon that the dead man was a stranger?

“Even though they were looking at him there was no room for him in their imagination.” What does this line mean to you?

How does the drowned man become Esteban? What stands out to you about this piece of the story?

Name some qualities about Esteban that the women admired about him. What about the men?

What qualities about Esteban do you most empathize with? Is there a passage that stands out to you about him? If so, write it down.

What is an astrolabe?

Were there any specific passages that brought up either a sense of sadness or joy for you while reading? If so, select one and write about why you chose it.

How is it that all of the inhabitants of the village became kinsmen to Esteban? What meaning do you make from this?

“The men and women became aware for the first time of ... the narrowness of their dreams as they faced the splendor and beauty of their drowned man.” Reflect on your own “village” and imagine how you might expand your own dreams for yourself and/or the others in it now that you have read this story.

How did imagination change over time for the villagers in this story and how did it change the way they lived into their future?