# UNIT 12: Questions at the Kiva

# Chapter 1: Questions at the Kiva

Ana and her brother Carlos were out of breath and sweating when they caught up to their Aunt Cecilia. "Is this the archaeology site?" Ana asked her aunt.

"Yes, yes, here we are,"
Cecilia answered. They had
walked 15 minutes in the
blazing Arizona sun from the
car to this ledge. They peered
into a pit that had been dug
out of the rocky desert.

A woman came up the ladder leading from the pit. "This," said Aunt Cecilia, "is Dr. Mary Narbona, of the Navajo Nation.



"Ah yes, the young adventurers I've heard about," Dr. Narbona said.
Carlos said, "Thank you for letting us visit your dig, Dr. Narbona. We promise not to get in the way of any of the

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real archaeologists."

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Dr. Narbona smiled and said, "Well, Carlos, maybe we 'real' archaeologists are too busy digging up **artifacts**, and you can help us answer the tricky questions about our kiva."

"Excuse me," said Ana, "but what's a kiva?"

"You're looking at a kiva "—
an Anasazi kiva, to be precise,"
Dr. Narbona explained. "Kivas
are round, underground rooms
with only one entrance. Let's go
look. We found something very
strange today."

The group followed Dr. Narbona down the ladder, where seven other people were working.



Dr. Narbona said, "This morning we found this Hopi pot."

"That's not unusual," said Aunt Cecilia. "The Hopi and Navajo lived in these places after the Anasazi. We've found other Hopi artifacts."

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"Yes," said Dr. Narbona, "but this pot was not buried! It was just sitting here this morning." "It's a mystery!" Ana said, breathlessly.

Aunt Cecilia called over Joseph Hoyuma, a Hopi teenager who worked at the site.

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"Joseph," she said, "Do you think this is real Hopi pottery?"

Joseph glanced quickly at the pot and said, "No."

"That's where Joseph and I disagree," said Dr. Narbona.

"I do think it's Hopi, but here's the strange thing, Cecilia. Take a closer look. This pot looks new. It looks like someone just made it... yesterday!"

"It's a fake," Ana whispered as she **kneeled** before the pot. "Someone planted it here."

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### Chapter 2: Things That Go Clank in the Night

When the sun started to set, the group made their way to camp. After dinner, Ana and Carlos were trying to sleep in their tent when they both heard a strange clanking noise outside. Ana whispered, "What was that?"

Carlos replied, "I don't know. It sounded like wind chimes." He **wrestled** with his sleeping bag to get untangled and peered through the front tent flap.



He saw a hunched figure walking in the moonlight along the ridge.

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Before breakfast in the morning, a shriek came from the kiva site. Ana and Carlos raced to the site with the rest of the team. They found Dr. Narbona alone in the pit. "The pot!" she shouted. "It's gone!"

As everyone else searched the site frantically, Ana watched Joseph. She whispered to Carlos, "Look, he's smiling. I think he's behind all of this."

Ana and Carlos watched as Joseph then climbed up the ladder and left the kiva by himself.



## Chapter 3: A Surprise Visitor

When the strange noises started again that night, Carlos and Ana ran to Aunt Cecilia and Dr. Narbona's tent.

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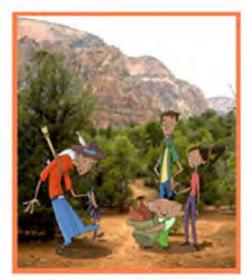
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"Joseph Hoyuma is making those noises!" Ana cried. "He's trying to scare us away from the kiva!"

Just then, the voice of an old man croaked from behind them, "Now why would Joseph want to do that?"

Ana and Carlos whirled around and saw an old, whitehaired man walking toward them.

At his side was Joseph, hiding a smile behind his hand. The old man carried a long stick across his shoulders. Tied to the stick were several pots similar to the one from the site.



As he moved, the pots clanged together gently.

"I'm Joseph's grandfather. He has done nothing wrong," the old man said.

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his man seems to know Joseph? Who do you think he is?	

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By now, the whole team had emerged from their tents. The man smiled and realized everyone was staring at the clay pots he carried. "I didn't mean to frighten anyone." "Do you live in the kiva?" Ana asked.

"No," Mr. Hoyuma explained, "but I visit the kiva. And I make these pots. I want to remember the way my ancestors lived."

"And I will learn from my grandfather," Joseph announced, "just as my grandfather learned from his ancestors."

Aunt Cecilia laughed. "No wonder the pots are so perfect, but new!"

"Thank you," Mr. Hoyuma grinned. "I take that as a compliment!"

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