

Day 10: Tuesday, September 17 and  
Wednesday, September 18

The chapter "A Smart Cookie" begins with the sentence "I could've been somebody, you know?" For this journal write from the perspective of a future you who has not achieved his/her dreams. Try to envision the obstacles that might rob you of your potential. Esperanza's mom gave up on her dreams because of shame. She said, "Shame is a bad thing...It keeps you down. You want to know why I quit school? Because I didn't have nice clothes. No clothes, but I had brains."

Begin your journal with the sentence: "I could have been somebody..."