

The First Rule of Punk

By: Celia Perez

1. What did Malu and her father do at the Store before she moved?
They ate dinner, she and her dad danced, and they watched The Wizard of Oz.
2. What things did Dad give to Malu as a gift before she moved?
He gave her a Walkman to listen to her favorite songs and a set of worry dolls.
3. What was the first rule of punk?
To be oneself.
4. Why did Malu have to go to the auditorium on her first day of school?
The school had a dress code. Malu violated it by wearing crazy make-up.
5. What is Malu's nickname for her mother?
Super Mexican
6. What did it mean when Mother was knitting?
Usually it meant that something was happening/changing that Malu was not going to like.
7. What happened with Selena the first day at the new school?
Selena made fun of her name since she did not look Mexican. She also called her a coconut.
8. What is a coconut according to the children in Selena's class?
A coconut is someone who is Mexican but does not look like it since they have white skin.
9. What is a zine?
It is a small booklet made from a few sheets of white paper that Malu would glue pictures, words, and letters to show her feelings about something or knowledge of an idea/concept. They were important to Malu and she spent time working on them.
10. Who was Senora Oralia?
She was the older woman who lived in the apartment building with Malu and her mom. She was Joe's grandmother.
11. What was the house warming gift that Malu was given from Senora Oralia?
A doll wearing a crocheted dress that cover the extra toilet paper in the bathroom.
12. How did Malu meet Joe?
She actually met him the first day when she was sent to the auditorium due to the dress code violation. He was the boy with the blue hair. She learned his name when she went to the coffee shop that his mother owned.

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13. How did Malu meet Ellie?

Ellie asked her to sign a petition to get better food in the cafeteria.

14. What did Selena do in Senor Ascencio's class?

She took Malu's zine and was going to read it until Senor Ascencio said something.

15. What happened when Mother met Selena's mother?

Malu's mother signed her up for a dance lesson at Selena's mother's studio. Malu and her mother went to the Mexican dance lesson. Mother was good, but Selena has no rhythm and was bad at it.

16. Why did Malu feel a little bit sad for Selena?

Selena's mother would not let her try the Irish dancing.

17. What kind of act did Malu want to do for the talent show?

She wanted to make a Punk Rock Band. She would be the singer for the band.

18. Who helped the four kids with the band for the talent show?

Joe's mom – Mrs. Hidalgo

19. What did Malu do before Mrs. Hidalgo help the band?

Malu helped her finish making cookies.

20. What reason did Mr. Jackson give for the band not being in the talent show?

Their act was loud and untraditional. He said that Principal wanted acts that reflected the 30th anniversary celebration of the founding man of the school.

21. What did mom ask Malu about Joe after she had been going to his house so often?

Mom wanted to know if he was her boyfriend. Malu was grossed out by that.

22. Why did Selena not tell her mom about the band?

She knew her mother wouldn't like it because it wasn't "Mexican" enough.

23. What Malu and the band come up with since they could not perform at the talent show?

They came up with the Alterna-Fiesta Show for those who were cut from the school talent show. They would hold it outside during the festival after the talent show was over.

24. How did the band get word out about the Alterna-Fiesta Show?

Joe designed a flyer. They made copies in the library on the copy machine. They gave out the flyers on the way into school so that the principal, teachers, and Selena would not know about it.

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25. Why did Joe quit the band?

Malu was hard on him when he accidentally left the original flyer for the Alterna-Fiesta on the copy machine in the library and Selena found it. Selena gave it to the Principal and Malu was called to the office.

26. What was challenging about the song that the band choose to sing for the show?

They decided on a song that was in Spanish. This was challenging because Malu felt that her Spanish was not very good.

27. How did Malu apologize to her band members after she got so mad?

She made a zine for them. All the band members were a character from The Wizard of Oz. The principal was the Wicked Witch of the West.

28. What is el dia de los muertos?

It is a day to remember those who have died and welcoming them back?

29. What did Malu's mother and Malu want to add to Mrs. Hidalgo's ofrenda?

Mother wanted to add a phot of Abuelo. Malu wanted to add the candy orange slice that she always had with her abuelo.

30. Why did Mrs. Hidalgo make a mix of music for Malu?

So Malu could learn more about the Mexican musicians who were part of her history.

31. What did Malu and Joe do the morning of the Alterna-Fiesta Show? How did mom feel about this?

They cut Malu's hair very short and died it bright green – like the quetzal(Mexican bird). Mom did not really say much about it. She made Joe leave and Malu had to clean up the mess. Malu was still allowed to go to the festival.

32. What was the name of the band that Malu formed?

They were called the Co-Co's. This was short for the unpleasant nickname that Selena liked to call people who were half-Mexican. They decided to embrace the name and make it theirs.

33. Who designed the shirts for the band?

Joe did. He was very artistic.

34. Who surprised Malu at the Alterna-Fiesta Show?

Both her mom and dad were there. Mom had found out from Mrs. Hidalgo. Mom said that she was proud of her and that she was sorry that she was so hard on her about needing to be more Mexican.