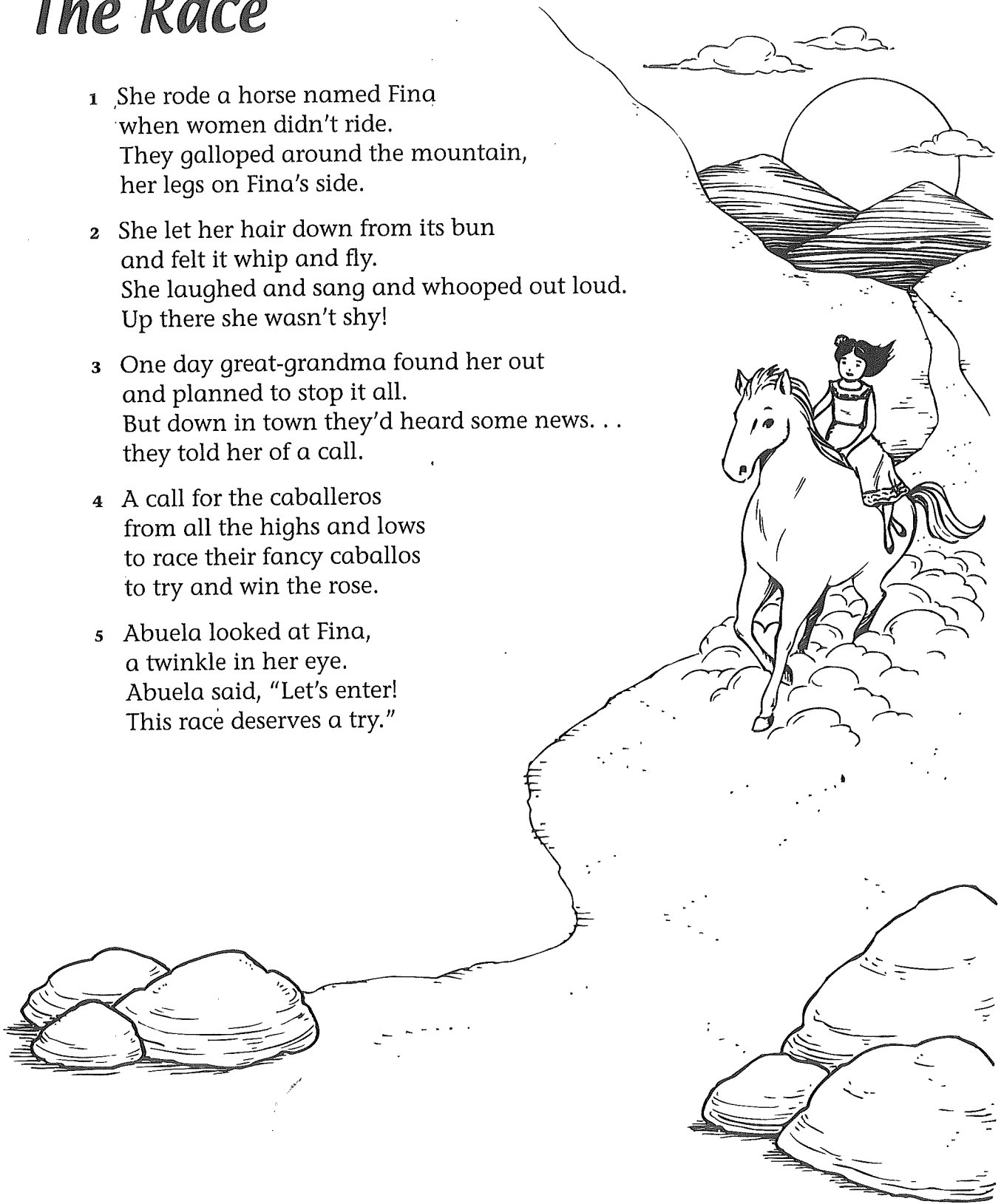


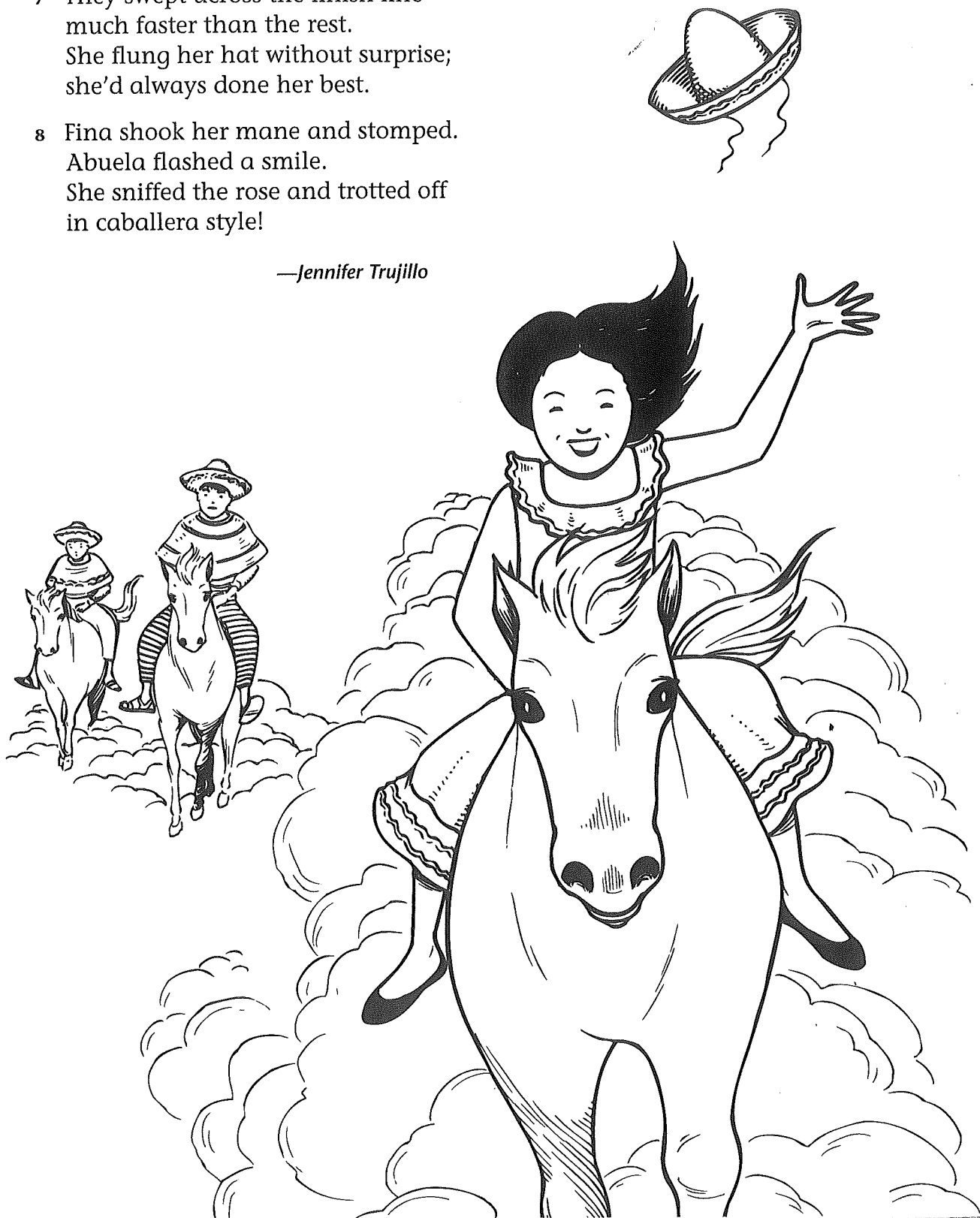
The Race

- 1 She rode a horse named Fina
when women didn't ride.
They galloped around the mountain,
her legs on Fina's side.
- 2 She let her hair down from its bun
and felt it whip and fly.
She laughed and sang and whooped out loud.
Up there she wasn't shy!
- 3 One day great-grandma found her out
and planned to stop it all.
But down in town they'd heard some news. . .
they told her of a call.
- 4 A call for the caballeros
from all the highs and lows
to race their fancy caballos
to try and win the rose.
- 5 Abuela looked at Fina,
a twinkle in her eye.
Abuela said, "Let's enter!
This race deserves a try."



- 6 At dawn she was the only girl,
but didn't even care.
She came to meet the challenge, and
her horse was waiting there.
- 7 They swept across the finish line
much faster than the rest.
She flung her hat without surprise;
she'd always done her best.
- 8 Fina shook her mane and stomped.
Abuela flashed a smile.
She sniffed the rose and trotted off
in caballera style!

—Jennifer Trujillo



Understanding the Poem

Read each question and choose the best answer. You may wish to reread "The Race" as you work.

1. Who is the woman who won the race?
 - (A) Fina
 - (B) The poem doesn't say.
 - (C) the poet's great-grandmother
 - (D) Abuela, the poet's grandmother

2. *Caballero* is a Spanish word. In this poem, it probably means something like _____.
 - (A) driver
 - (B) cowboy
 - (C) veterinarian
 - (D) animal trainer

3. The prize for winning the race was _____.
 - (A) a rose
 - (B) a horse
 - (C) a fancy hat
 - (D) a leather saddle

4. How many women were in the race?
 - (A) a few
 - (B) none
 - (C) one
 - (D) more than a few

5. You can tell that Abuela was probably _____.
 - (A) shy and timid
 - (B) a feisty old horse
 - (C) all talk and no action
 - (D) the first woman to ever win this race

The Race

Understanding the Poem

"The Race" tells a story. Summarize each part of the story in your own words.

Start

Stanzas 1-3

Stanzas 4 and 5

Stanzas 6-8

Finish

