In this thesis I discuss the genre of Sandra Cisneros's Woman Hollering Creek. I argue that the book is what I here call a bildungscomposite," that is, a hybrid genre with elements from both the Bildungsroman and the short story composite. The 22 texts the book consists of are autonomous texts, and at the same time connected in a way that allows us to read the book as a unified whole. I believe that reading Woman Hollering as a bildungscomposite offers a fuller understanding of the book than if the stories were to be read separately and isolated from the rest of the texts. As my discussion will hopefully show, this generic hybrid, the bildungscomposite, is the result of literary transculturation.
Woman Hollering Creek. 33-page comprehensive study guide. Features 3 chapter summaries and 5 sections of expert analysis. Woman Hollering Creek, a short story collection published in 1991, presents compelling narratives featuring female characters of all ages, eras and walks of life. The youngest of the characters are girls still occupied with elementary school and making friends. Teenagers are also presented, exploring the new challenge of romantic and sexual relationships. They are so desperate to enter the adult world that they put themselves in harm’s way, running away from home or having sex with strangers. They struggle with seeing any consequences at all for their actions. The future alone seems to captivate them and they are blind to the realities of the present moment.