Scene 1: Texans move on in (Page 260, 263, 264,265 in books)

* Mexico wins independence
* Mexican territory includes much of California, New Mexico and Texas
* Mexican leaders allow these regions great autonomy and independence
* Americans begin moving into these regions, especially Texas
* Stephen Austin becomes one of the most successful pioneers of the area.
* Mexican leaders encouraged Americans to settle since their own citizens wouldn’t live on the frontier.
* Cheap land was available to everyone without paying taxes, but they had to become Mexican citizens and convert to Catholicism.
* Americans in Texas initially accepted Mexican citizenship.
* Mexico hoped these Texans would adopt Mexico culture and customs, but few did.

Scene 2: Mexicans think twice (Page 265 – 267)

* Mexicans start to distrust the Americans, especially when they begin rising up against Mexican authority
* Haden Edwards calls for revolution
* Mexican government gets worried, closes borders and outlawed slavery in the region.
* Settlers are furious.
* Stephen Austin is nominated to voice complaints of the settlers.
* Visits president Santa Anna who initially agrees with his terms.
* Anna becomes dictator, Austin thrown into jail
* When Austin is released, he organizes an army
* The army dominates the Mexican army in early battles.

Scene 3: Catholic Mission of Death (267, 268, 269)

* Texan rebels choose Sam Houston to lead the rebellion
* Santa Anna and 6,000 came to San Antonio to put down rebellion
* Find over 180 rebels hold up in an abandoned Catholic mission called the Alamo under Colonel Travis
* Travis was trying to stall Santa Anna to give Houston and his troops more time to get ready for battle.
* Travis calls for help from fellow Texans but only 32 show up to help.
* They hold up the Mexican army for 13 days.
* When the battle begins, Texans fought off the Mexicans for 6 hours, killing or wounding about 600 being overrun.
* Alamo was defeated and nearly all the rebels were killed, but they gave Houston 2 weeks to recruit and train his army.

Scene 4: Sleeping not so soundly (pg. 269)

* The Battle of San Jacinto as covered in the text
* Houston becomes first president of the nation nation
* Americans didn’t want to annex into the U.S. because it would be a slave state and upset the balance.
* Mexico still considered Texas part of their territory for the next 10+ years.
* Texas becomes an independent nation

Scene 5: Drawing Lines (pg. 270, 272, 273)

* In 1845, Texas is admitted to the Union as a state.
* Mexico is furious, cuts off diplomatic relations
* Controversy over borders. Is the correct dividing line the Nueces River? (Mexicans) or the Rio Grande (Americans)?
* President Polk tries to meet with Mexican leaders to purchase the territory, but they refuse.
* He sees this as a snub and sends in the American troops.
* They cross the Nueces River, which Mexico of course sees as an invasion.
* Polk wants the Mexicans to fire the first shot. They do.
* We have an excuse to declare war.

Scene 6: Domination, No breathing.

* Before the war is even official, American military troops have conquered many Mexican forces.
* Californians decide to declare themselves independent renaming themselves the Bear Flag Republic.
* American troops march into Mexico city and capture it. Mexico surrenders.
* Treaty o Guadalupe Hidalgo is signed. Mexico gives up its territory to the U.S., accepts Rio Grand as border. U.S. pays them money ad takes their debts