"Journey" by Shirley Geok-Lin Lim

Reading questionnaire:
Answer all of the following questions. Answers do not need to be long.

Paragraph 1
1. This paragraph retells a dream. Mention three characteristics of the dream.

Paragraph 2
2. Where is the protagonist going?
3. Is the bus going slowly or fast? Justify your choice with words or phrases from the text.
4. What time of day is it? How do you know?
5. Who is on the bus apart from her? How are these people described? Justify with words or phrases from the text, but not whole sentences.

Paragraphs 3 and 4
6. How does the girl feel when she gets off the bus?
7. What kind of neighbourhood is she in?
8. What picture of a family does she have in her mind as living in this neighbourhood?
9. What do you think is making her feel frightened?

Paragraph 5
10. What instructions has the mother given her? Rewrite them here.
11. Do you think the mother has been there before? Why?
12. Describe the household god in your own words.
13. Does she wait for a long or a short time? Justify your choice with words from the text.
14. How does she feel about the man who gives her the package?
15. What is there in the package?

Paragraph 6
16. The setting changes here, what is the new setting?
17. How many people are there in the girl's family?
18. What do the women do in the family? Support your answer with quotations from the text.
19. What do the men do in the family? Support your answer with quotations from the text.
20. What are the sleeping arrangements in the family (i.e. who sleeps with whom)?

Paragraphs 7, 8 and 9
21. What has woken the girl up?
22. How does she feel when she first wakes up?
23. When the girl follows her mother, why doesn't she want to turn the lights on?
24. In your own words, describe what the girl sees when she finally does turn on the lights.
25. At first, she doesn't know how to help. She does, finally through "a habit of sex". What do you think this means?

Paragraph 10
26. What has happened? What was wrong with the mother?
27. What is the "unexpected inversion" mentioned in the text?
28. Why does the girl cry? Briefly, mention as many reasons as you can think of.