

Picture Books Centering Diverse Latino Characters



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Are you looking for “mirror” books that reflect your Latino/a/e children’s own experiences and identities? Or are you looking for “window” books that can show children other identities, experiences, and cultures that are different from their own? **EmbraceRace has got you covered!**

Check out this list of picture books celebrating a wide diversity of Latino characters, cultures, and experiences.

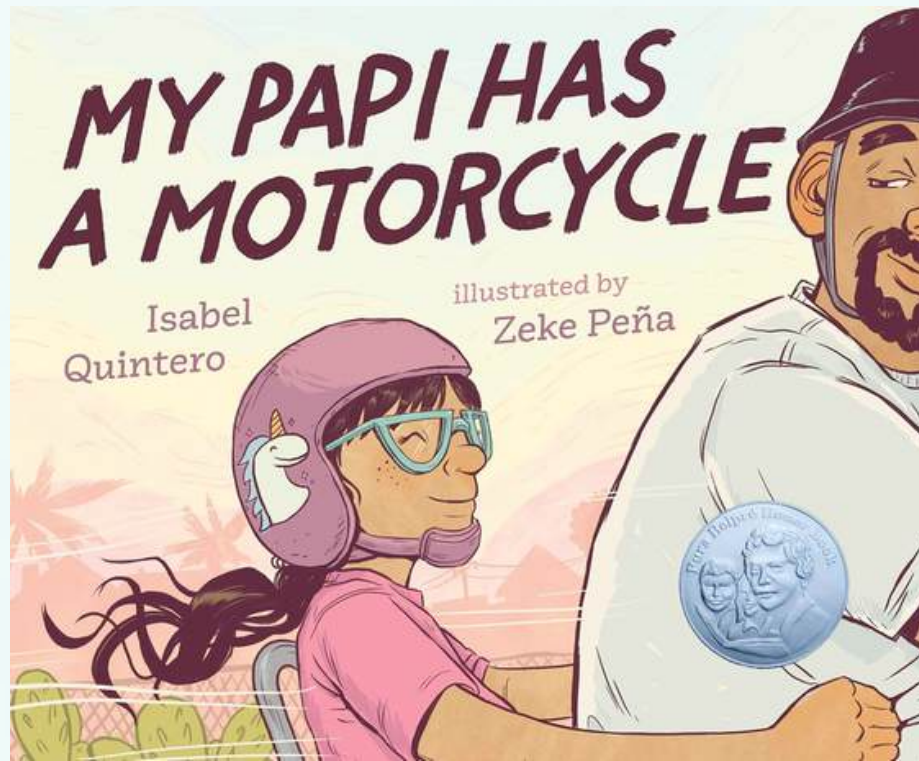
Please know that this a long, but not comprehensive list: there may be great books out there that we haven’t included here (yet!). It’s also an evolving list. We will add more books over time, and may also remove books if it comes to our attention that a particular book is not one we would endorse. Please send us any feedback you have about books you’d like to see added or removed at hugs@embracerace.org. And check our website for the most up-to-date version of this list.

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Community / Comunidad



My Papi Has a Motorcycle

Author: Isabel Quintero | Illustrator: Zeke Peña

When Daisy Ramona zooms around her neighborhood with her papi on his motorcycle, she sees the people and places she's always known. She also sees a community that is rapidly changing around her. But as the sun sets purple-blue-gold behind Daisy Ramona and her papi, she knows that the love she feels will always be there.

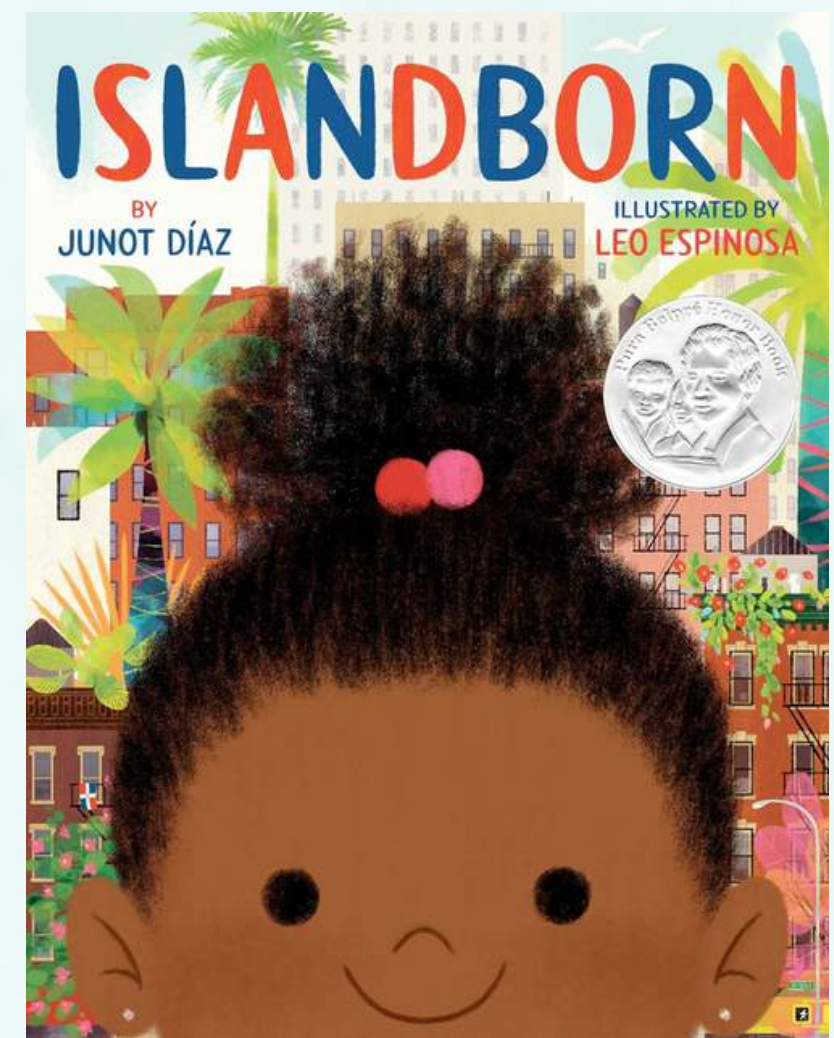
Disponible en español como *Mi papi tiene una moto*
Kokila

Islandborn

Author: Junot Díaz | Illustrator: Leo Espinosa

Every kid in Lola's school was from somewhere else. Hers was a school of faraway places. So when Lola's teacher asks the students to draw a picture of where their families immigrated from, all the kids are excited. Except Lola. She can't remember The Island—she left when she was just a baby. But with the help of her family and friends, and their memories—joyous, fantastical, heartbreaking, and frightening—Lola's imagination takes her on an extraordinary journey back to The Island. As she draws closer to the heart of her family's story, Lola comes to understand the truth of her abuela's words: "Just because you don't remember a place doesn't mean it's not in you."

Disponible en español como *Lola*
Dial Books

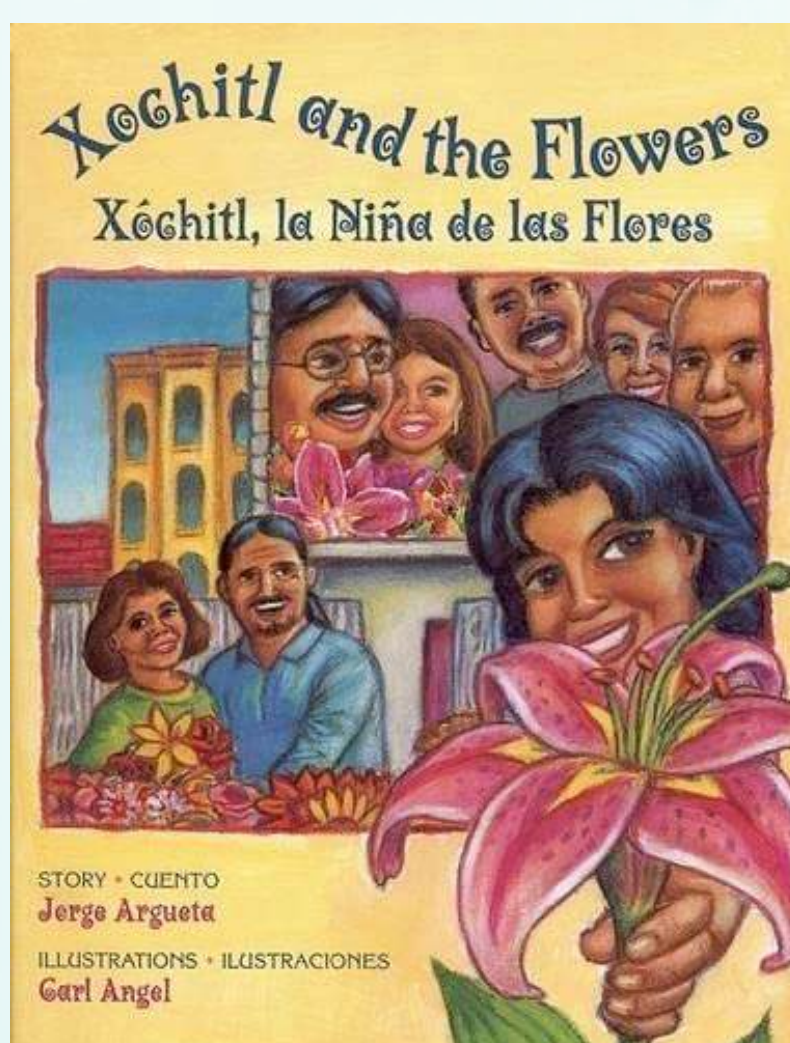


Xochitl and the Flowers* / *Xochitl, la Niña de las Flores

Author: Jorge Argueta | Illustrator: Carl Angel

Miles away from their home in El Salvador, Xochitl (SOH-cheel) and her family make a new home in the United States, but nothing is the same. Xochitl mourns a lovely garden and her family's small flower business, all left behind. Selling flowers on the street soon provides more than income for the Flores family: they begin to make friends with local storeowners and neighbors. But it is not until the family decides to start a nursery in its backyard that Xochitl begins to learn the true value of community in their adopted country.

Lee & Low Books



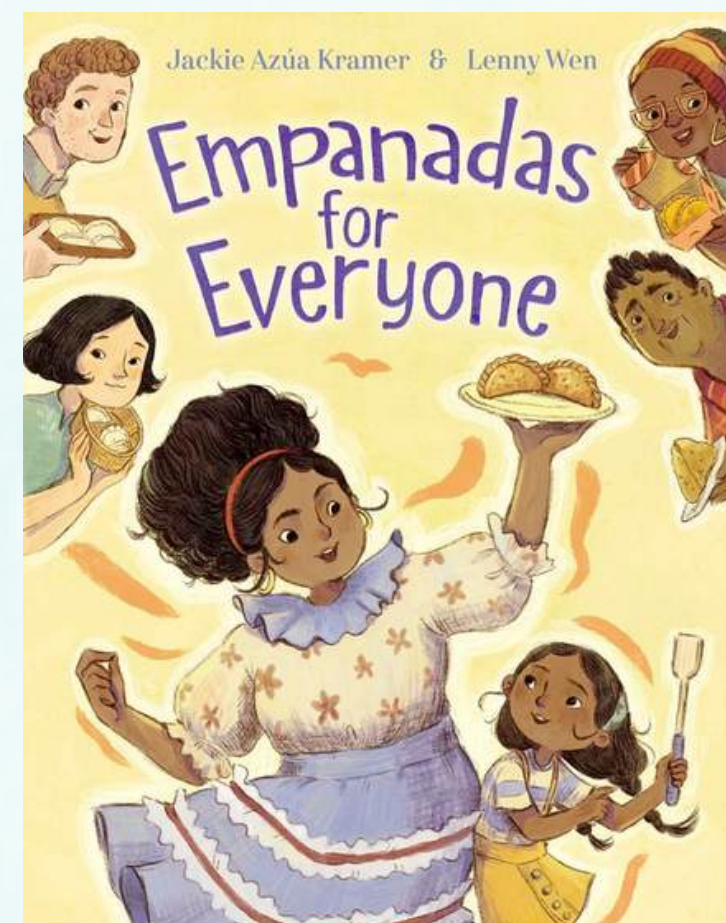
Community / Comunidad

Empanadas for Everyone

Author: Jackie Azúa Kramer | Illustrator: Lenny Wen

Every Saturday, Carina visits Tía Mimi in her barrio, which is always humming with life. Every Saturday, she loves to make empanadas with her aunt, singing: "I like empanadas! I like you! ¡Me gustan las empanadas! ¡Me gustas tú!" Not this Saturday though. This Saturday, Tía Mimi has gone to volunteer at the neighborhood food center and asks Carina to collect the ingredients all on her own. But maybe, with a little guidance from friends, Carina will be able to help Tía Mimi—and learn a little about what connects a community along the way.

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers



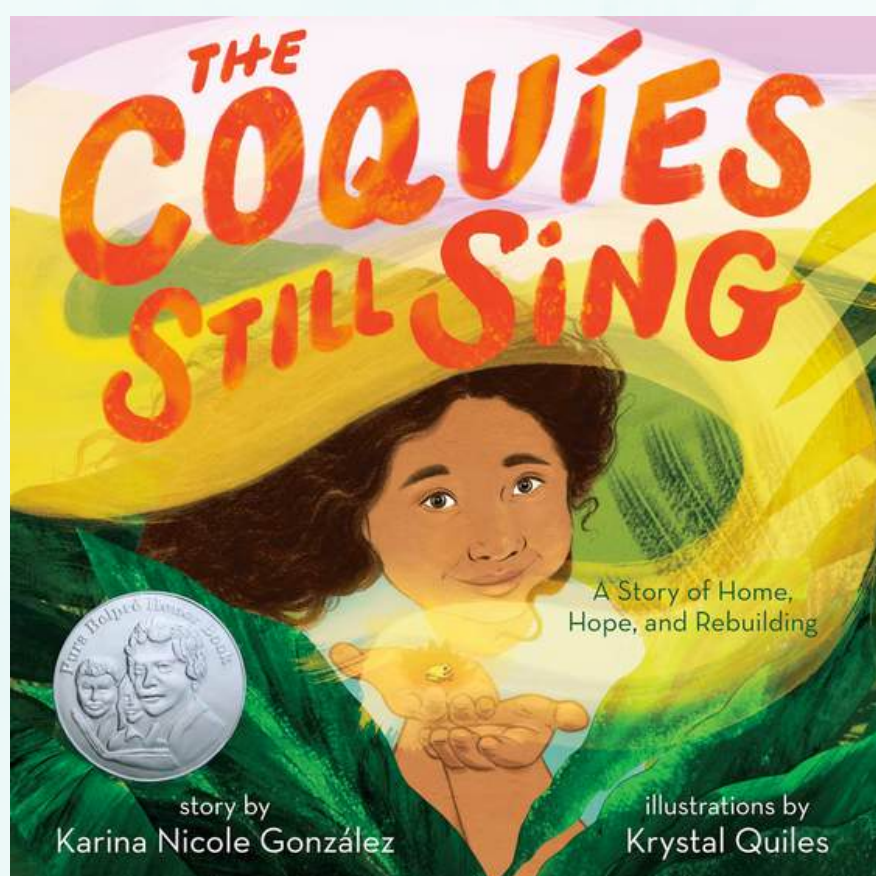
The Coquíes Still Sing

Author: Karina Nicole González | Illustrator: Krystal Quiles

Co-quí, co-quí! The coquí frogs sing to Elena from her family's beloved mango tree—their calls so familiar that they might as well be singing, "You are home, you are safe." But home is suddenly not safe when a hurricane threatens to destroy everything that Elena knows. As time passes, Elena, alongside her community, begins to rebuild their home, planting seeds of hope along the way. When the sounds of the coquíes gradually return, they reflect the resilience and strength of Elena, her family, and her fellow Puerto Ricans.

Disponible en español como *Los coquíes aún cantan*

Roaring Brook Press



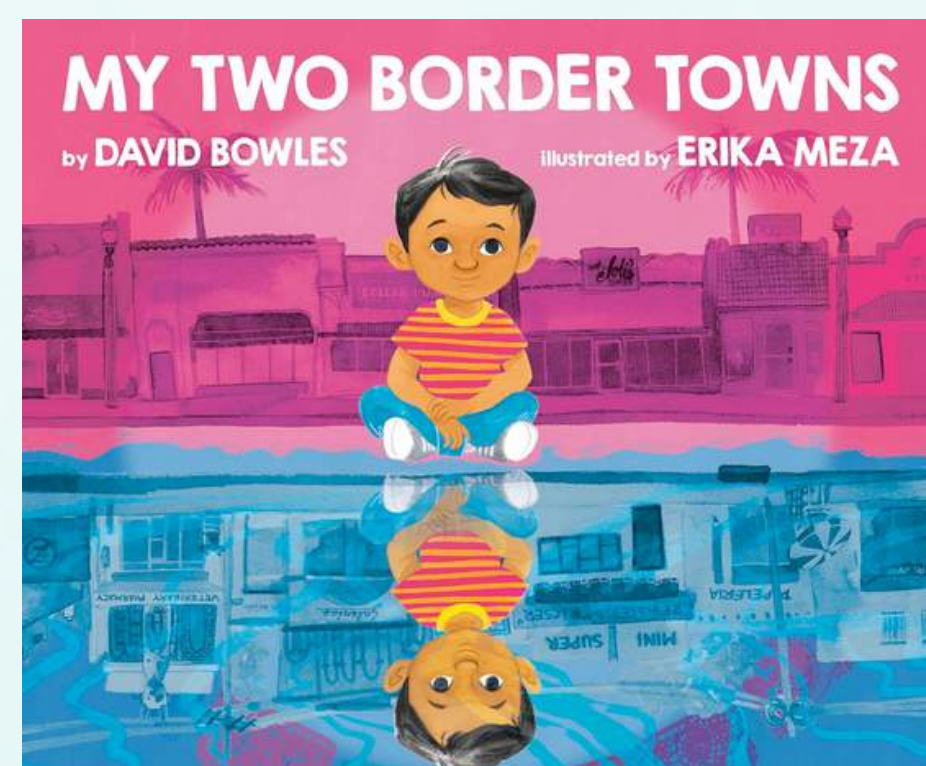
My Two Border Towns

Author: David Bowles | Illustrator: Erika Meza

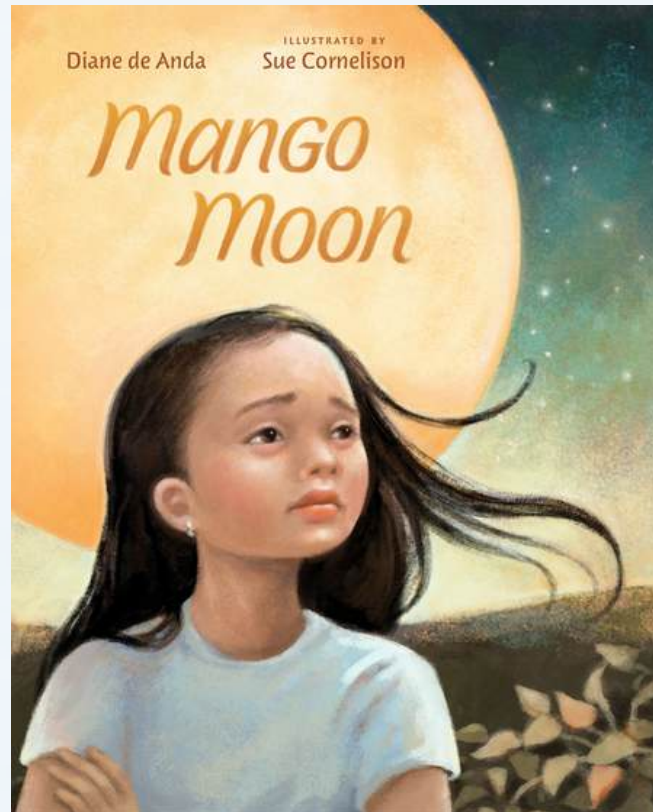
Early one Saturday morning, a boy prepares for a trip to The Other Side/El Otro Lado. It's close—just down the street from his school—and it's a twin of where he lives. To get there, his father drives their truck along the Rio Grande and over a bridge, where they're greeted by a giant statue of an eagle. Their outings always include a meal at their favorite restaurant, a visit with Tío Mateo at his jewelry store, a cold treat from the paletero, and a pharmacy pickup. On their final and most important stop, they check in with friends seeking asylum and drop off much-needed supplies.

Disponible en español como *Mis dos pueblos fronterizos*

Roaring Brook Press



Family Separation / Separación familiar



Mango Moon

Author: Diane de Anda | Illustrator: Sue Cornelison

When a father is taken away from his family and faces deportation, the family is left to grieve and wonder what comes next. Maricela, Manuel, and their mother face the many challenges of having their lives completely changed by the absence of their father and husband. Having to move, missed soccer games and birthday parties, and emptiness are just part of the now day-to-day norm. *Mango Moon* shows what life is like from a child's perspective when a parent is deported, and the heartbreaking realities the family has to face.

Disponible en español como *La luna mango*

Albert Whitman & Co.

Until Someone Listens

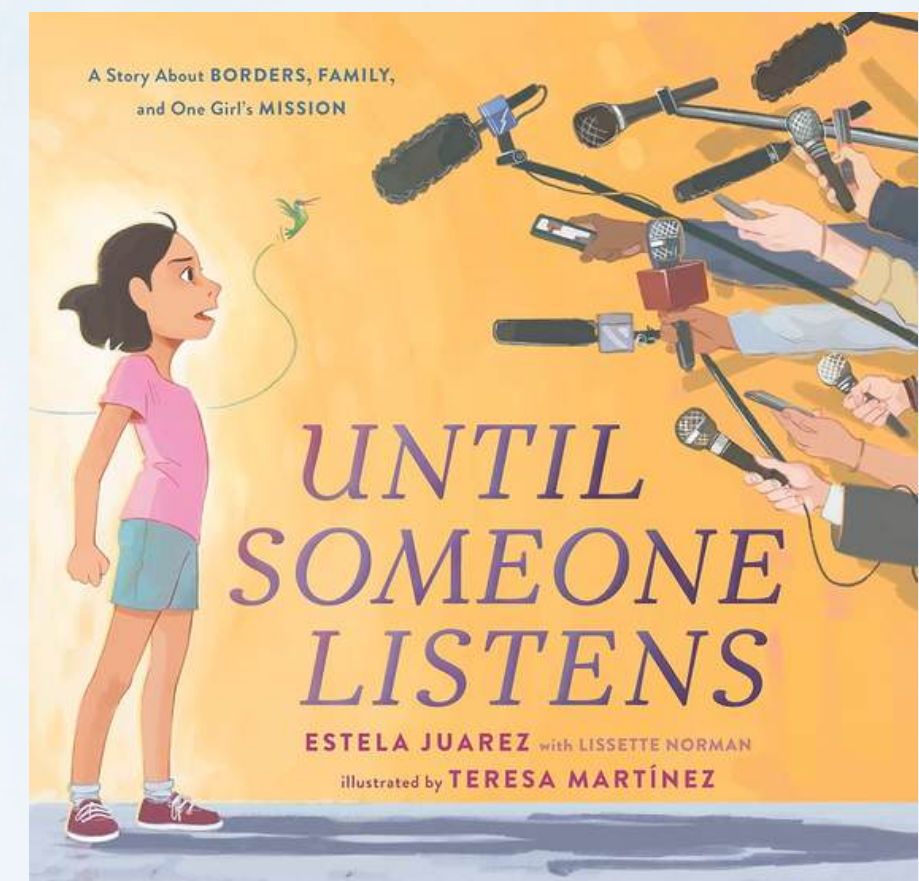
Authors: Estela Juarez & Lissette Norman

Illustrator: Teresa Martínez

Estela's family lives together in a happy home full of love. Or, at least, they used to... until their home was torn apart. *My mom had to go back, to the other side of the river, because she wasn't born in this country.* For years her family fought and fought for permission for her to stay in the U.S. But no one listened. When Estela was eight, her mother was deported to Mexico. Estela knew she had to do something. So she wrote letters: to local newspapers, Congress, the President, and anyone else who could help. She wrote and wrote and wrote until, finally... someone listened. In this heart wrenching, autobiographical story, Estela Juarez's letters take her from the local news all the way to the national stage, where she discovers the power in her words and pledges to keep using her voice until her family—and others like hers—are together again.

Disponible en español como *Hasta que alguien me escuche*

Roaring Brook Press



Something Happened to My Dad

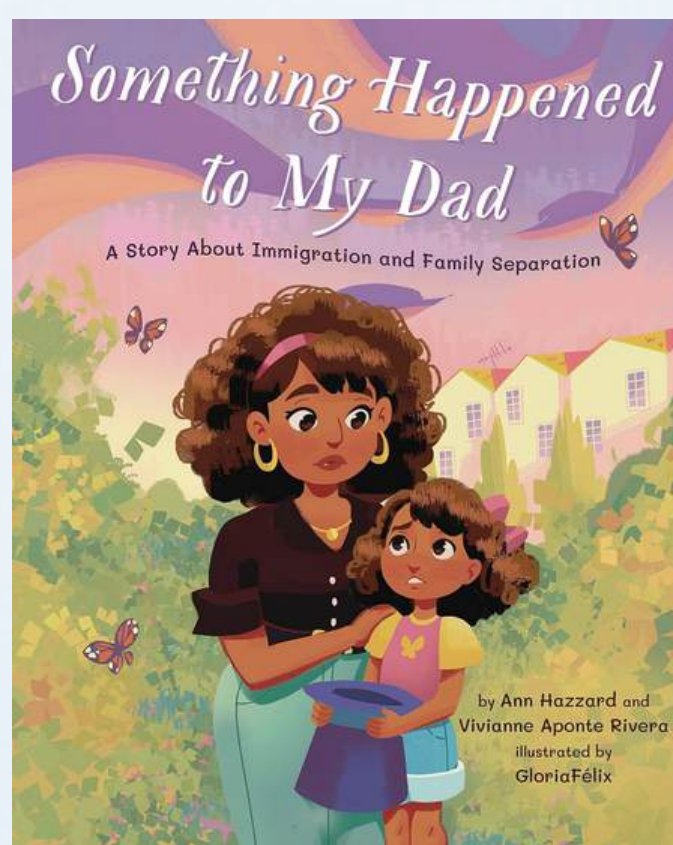
Authors: Ann Hazzard & Vivianne Aponte Rivera

Illustrator: Gloria Félix

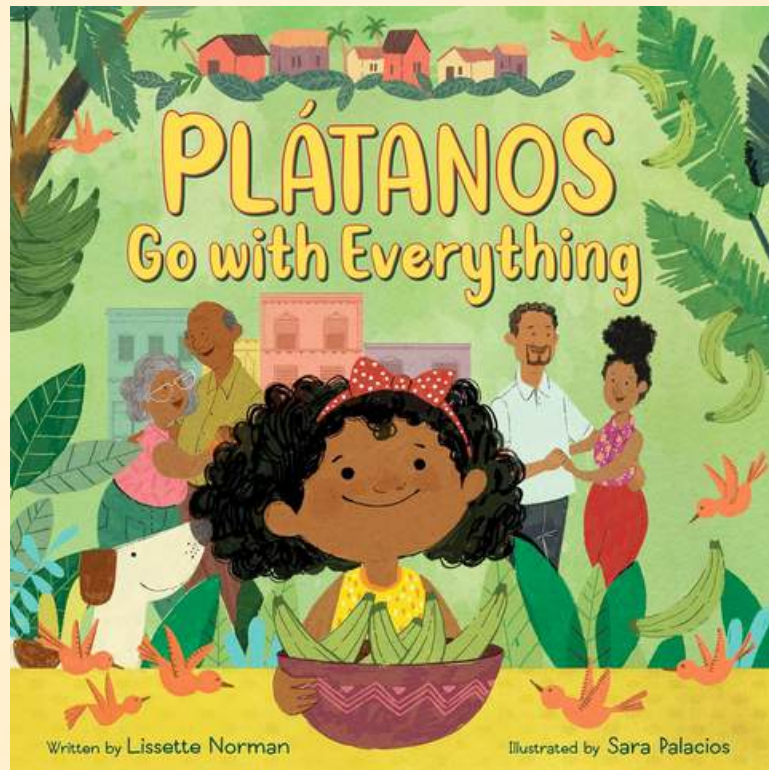
Carmen loves doing magic with her Papi. He can make sarapes fly. He can make rabbits vanish! But one day, her Papi vanishes. She is sad and scared when she learns he has been detained because he is an undocumented immigrant from Mexico. At first, Carmen's family keeps Papi's detention a secret, fearing that they might be judged negatively. As Carmen's community becomes aware of their situation, they rally around her family with love. Carmen learns she can find strength in herself and maintain her connection with Papi, no matter what happens.

Disponible en español como *Algo le pasó a mi papá*

Magination Press — American Psychological Association



Food is Love / La comida es amor



Plátanos Go with Everything

Author: Lissette Norman

Illustrator: Sara Palacios

Plátanos are Yesenia's favorite food. They can be sweet and sugary, or salty and savory. And they're a part of almost every meal her Dominican family makes. Stop by her apartment and find out why plátanos go with everything—especially love!

Disponible en español como *Los plátanos van con todo*

Harper Collins



Fridays Are for Churros

Author & Illustrator: Jenny Alvarado

Every Friday, Emi and her Papi made churros for the entire familia. Now in their new apartment in the big city, Papi is always working, and there are no churros, and no familia, on Fridays. Until, Emi smells something sweet and delicious coming from her neighbor Señora Luisa's apartment. Emi has an idea! Maybe she can make churros after all, with a little help. From Señora Luisa, she can borrow flour. Tomas in 312 has sugar. Marisol in 512 has a piping tip. Soon Emi's apartment is filled with the scent of fresh churros, new foods, and new friends!

Disponible en español como *Los viernes comemos churros*

Lee & Low Books

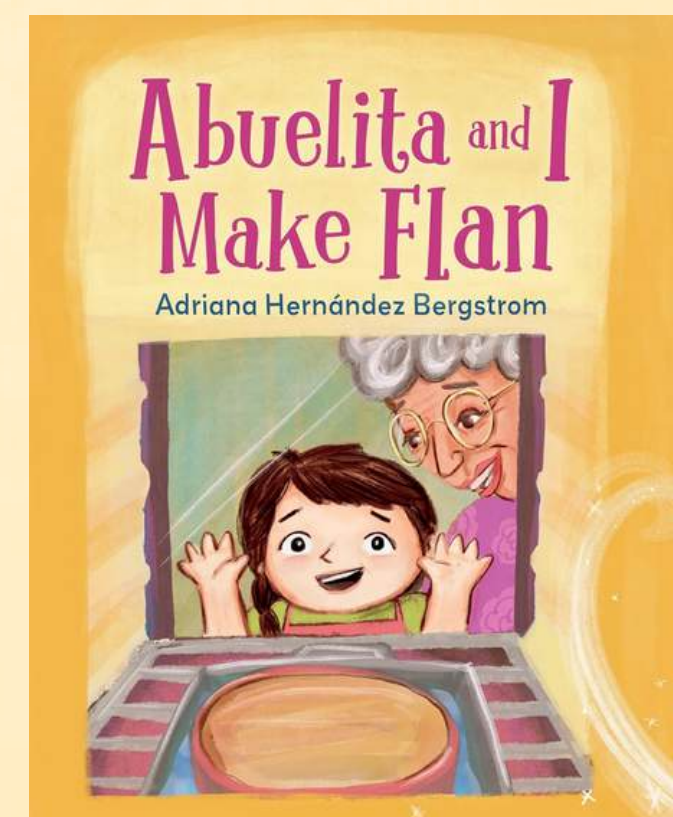
Abuelita and I Make Flan

Author & Illustrator: Adriana Hernández Bergstrom

Anita is making flan for Abuelo's birthday, but when she accidentally breaks Abuelita's treasured flan serving plate from Cuba, she struggles with what to do. Anita knows it's right to tell the truth, but what if Abuelita gets upset? Worried that she has already ruined the day, Anita tries to be the best helper. After cooking the flan, they need a serving dish! Anita comes up with a wonderful solution.

Disponible en español como *Abuelita y yo hacemos flan*

Charlesbridge



Plátanos are Love

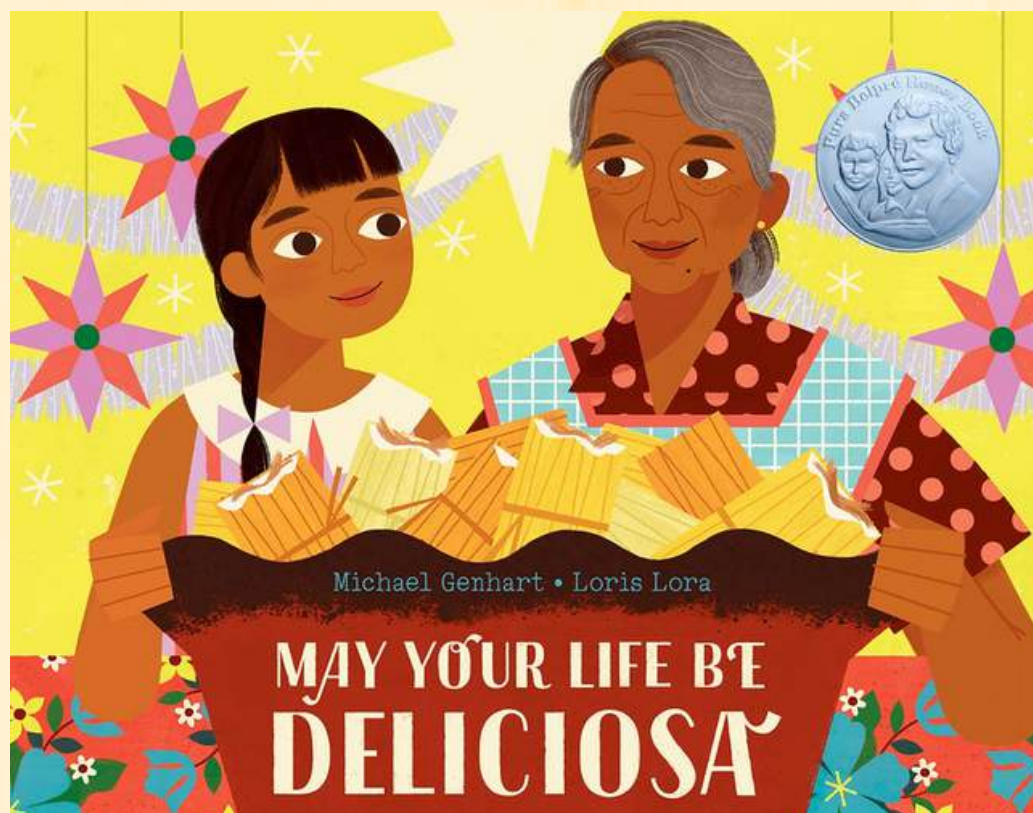
Author: Alyssa Reynoso-Morris | Illustrator: Mariyah Rahman

With every pop of the tostones, mash of the mangú, and sizzle of the maduros, a little girl learns that plátanos are her history, they are her culture, and—most importantly—they are love.

Disponible en español como *Los plátanos son amor*

Atheneum Books for Young Readers

Food is Love / La comida es amor



May Your Life Be Deliciosa

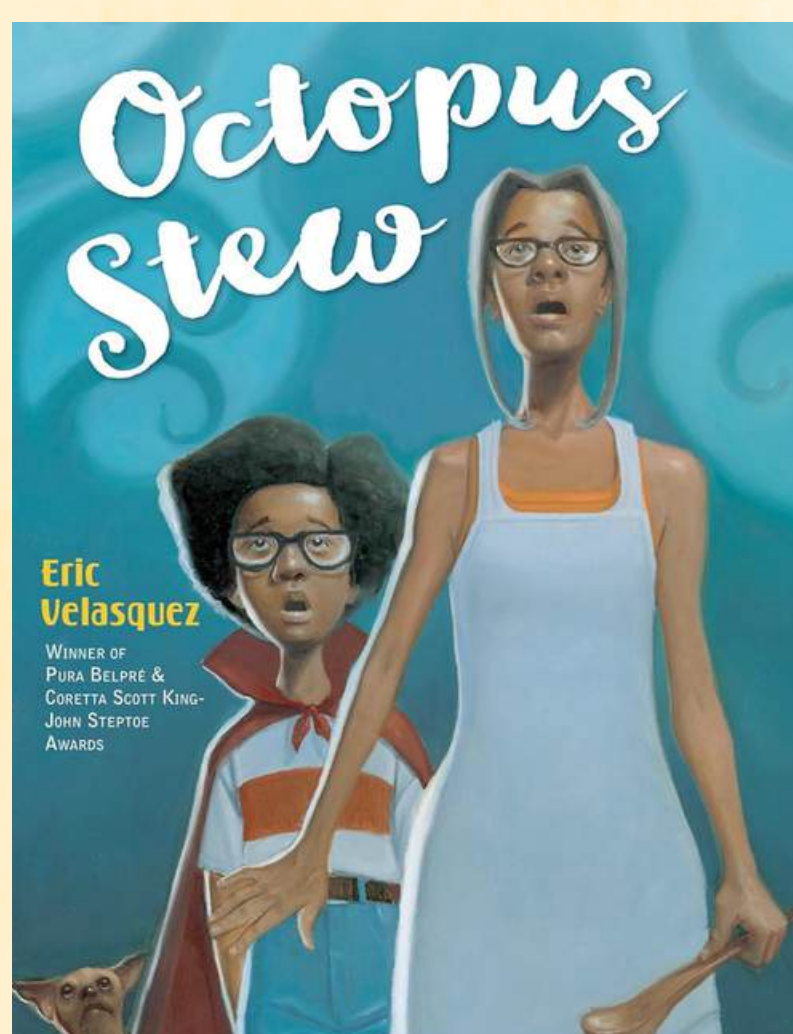
Author: Michael Genhart

Illustrator: Loris Lora

Each year on Christmas Eve, Rosie's abuela, mamá, tía, sister, and cousins all gather together in Abuela's kitchen to make tamales—cleaning corn husks, chopping onions and garlic, roasting chilis, kneading cornmeal dough, seasoning the filling, and folding it all—and tell stories. Rosie learns from her abuela not only how to make a delicious tamale, but how to make a delicious life, one filled with love, plenty of spice, and family.

Disponible en español como *Que tu vida sea deliciosa*

Abrams Books for Young Readers



Octopus Stew

Author & Illustrator: Eric Velasquez

The octopus Grandma is cooking has grown to titanic proportions. "¡Tenga cuidado!" Ramsey shouts. "Be careful!" But it's too late. The octopus traps Grandma! Ramsey uses both art and intellect to free his beloved abuela. Then the story takes a surprising twist. And it can be read two ways. Open the fold-out pages to find Ramsey telling a story to his family. Keep the pages folded, and Ramsey's octopus adventure is real.

Disponible en español como *Pulpo guisado*

Holiday House

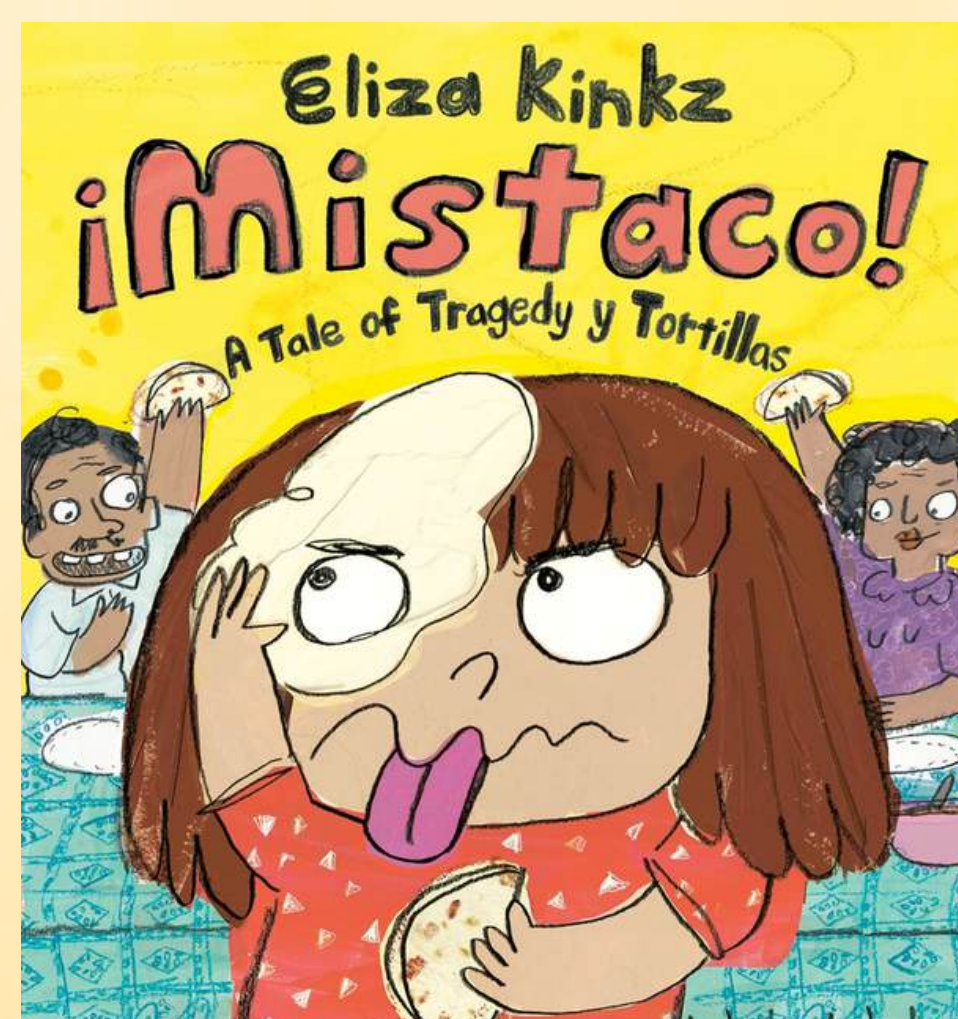
¡Mistaco! A Tale of Tragedy y Tortillas

Author & Illustrator: Eliza Kinkz

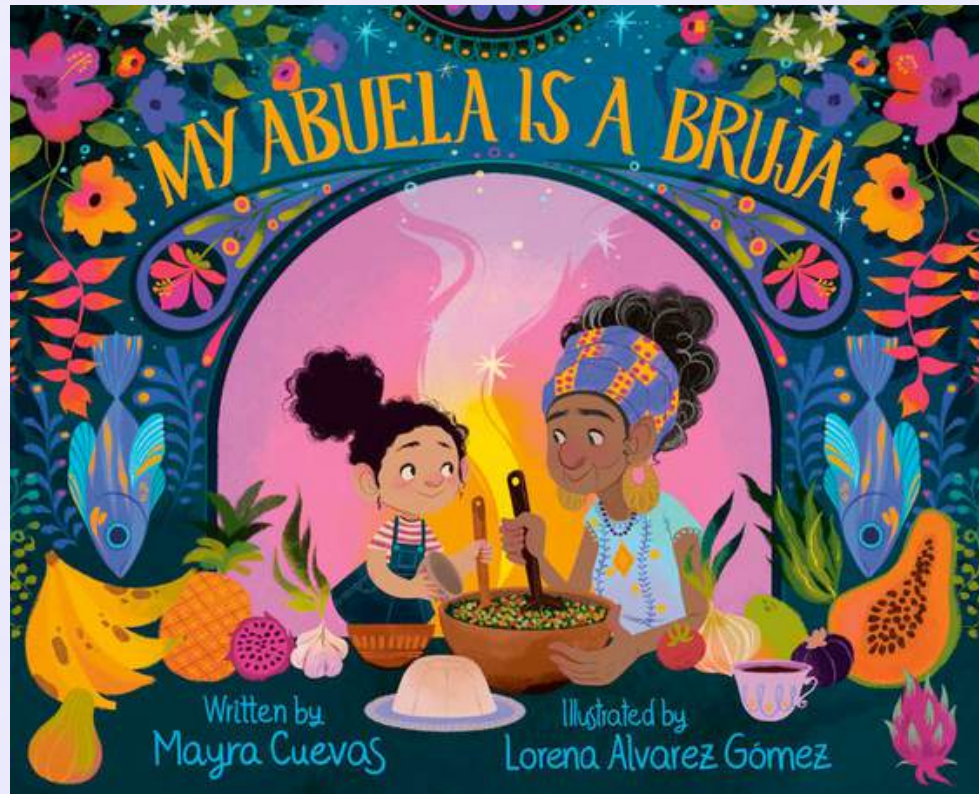
After an awful day at school (including a tragic but plausibly deniable mishap with a pudding cup), Izzy wants to be left alone. But it's Friday, and that means making tortillas with Lito. As the mistakes pile up, they come tumbling out of Izzy—and Lito surprises her by saying everyone makes mistakes, and if she makes a tortilla out of her mistakes, he will EAT it. Suddenly, the whole family is confessing and getting mistakes off their chests with a feast of mistacos!

Disponible en español como *¡Mistaco! Un recuento de tragedias y tortillas*

Kokila



Grandparents / Abuelos



My Abuela Is a Bruja

Author: Mayra Cuevas | Illustrator: Lorena Álvarez Gómez

There is nothing more magical than a grandmother's love. But one lucky girl suspects her grandmother has actual magic. It's in the tun-tun-tun of the way she dances salsa, in the warmth of her hugs, and the delicious smell of her cooking. The granddaughter wonders: will I have magic of my own one day?

Disponible en español como *Mi abuela es una bruja*

Knopf Books for Young Readers

Mango, Abuela, and Me

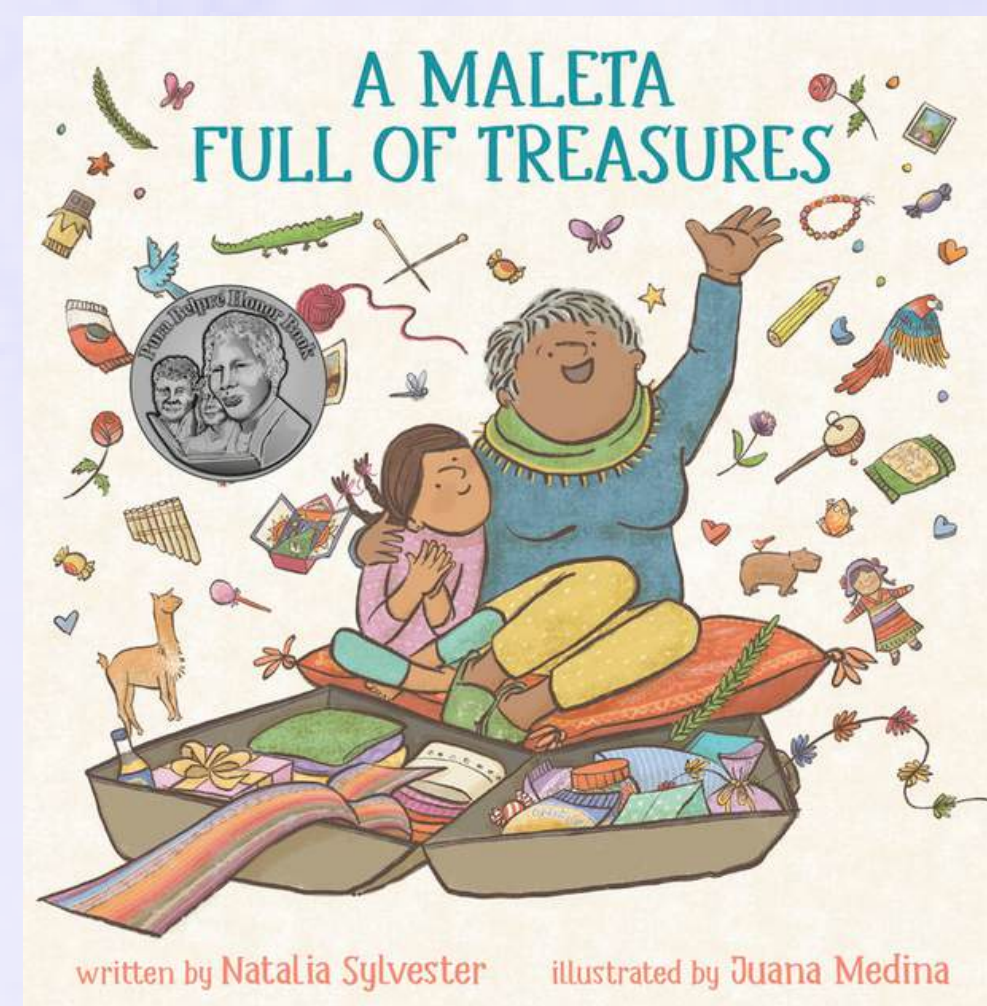
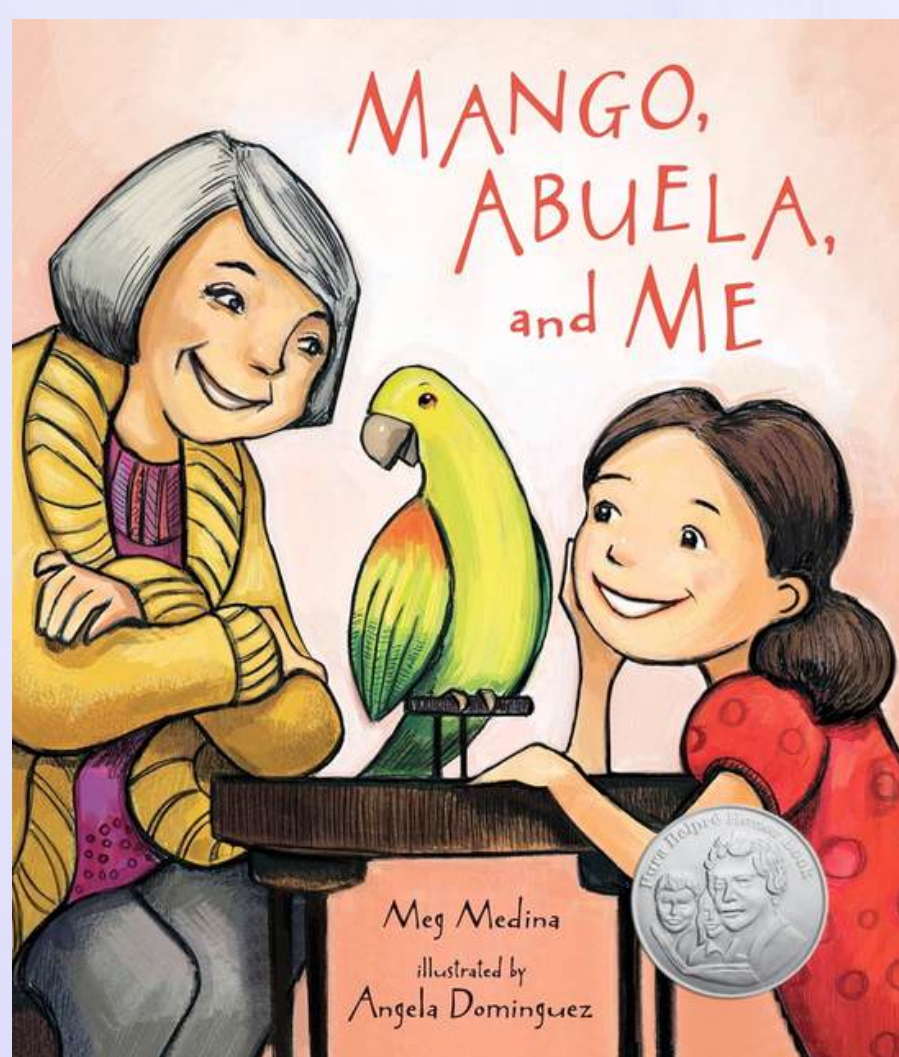
Author: Meg Medina

Illustrator: Angela Dominguez

Mia's abuela has left her sunny house with parrots and palm trees to live with Mia and her parents in the city. While they cook, Mia helps Abuela learn English, and Mia learns some Spanish, too, but it's still hard for Abuela to learn enough words to tell Mia her stories. Then Mia sees a parrot in the pet-shop window and has the perfecto idea for how to help them all communicate a little better. Here is an endearing tale that speaks loud and clear about the love that binds families across the generations.

Disponible en español como *Mango, Abuela y yo*

Candlewick



A Maleta Full of Treasures

Author: Natalia Sylvester

Illustrator: Juana Medina

It's been three years since Abuela's last visit, and Dulce revels in every tiny detail—from Abuela's maletas full of candies in crinkly wrappers and gifts from primos to the sweet, earthy smell of Peru that floats out of Abuela's room and down the hall. But Abuela's visit can't last forever, and all too soon she's packing her suitcases again. Then Dulce has an idea: maybe there are things she can gather for her cousins and send with Abuela to remind them of the U.S. relatives they've never met. And despite having to say goodbye, Abuela has one more surprise for Dulce—something to help her remember that home isn't just a place, but the deep-rooted love they share no matter the distance.

Disponible en español como *La maleta de tesoros*

Dial Books

Grandparents / Abuelos

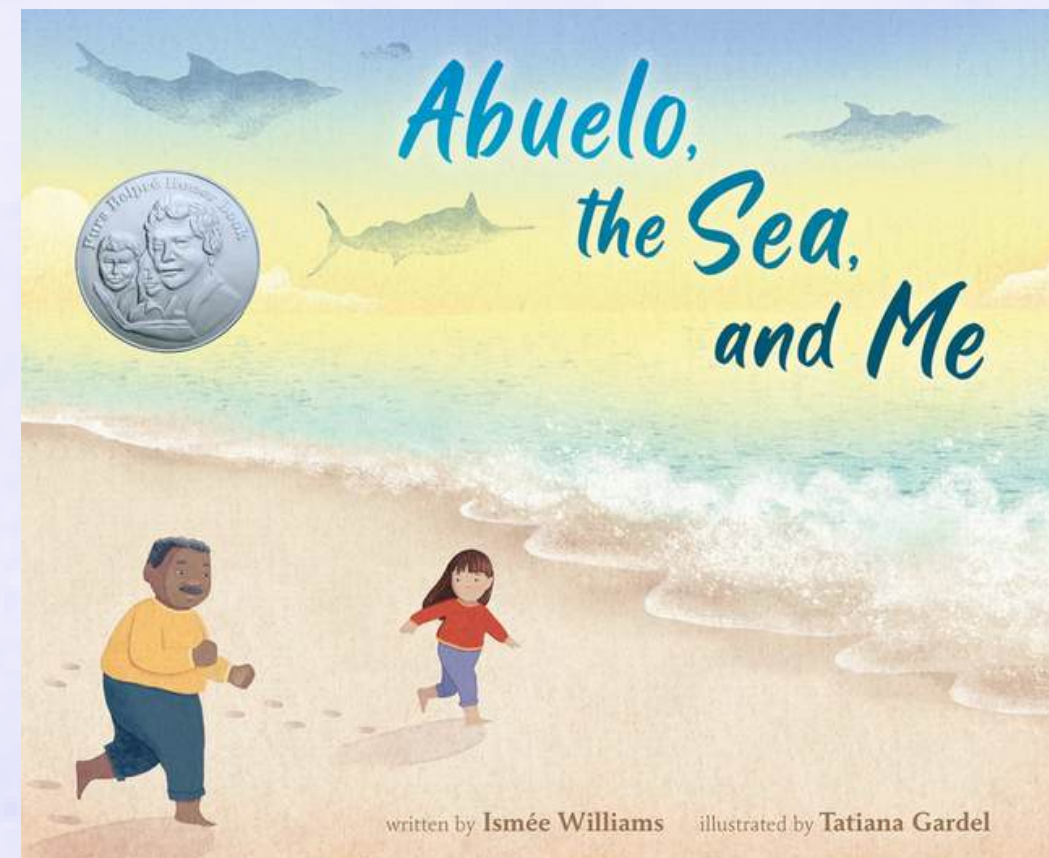
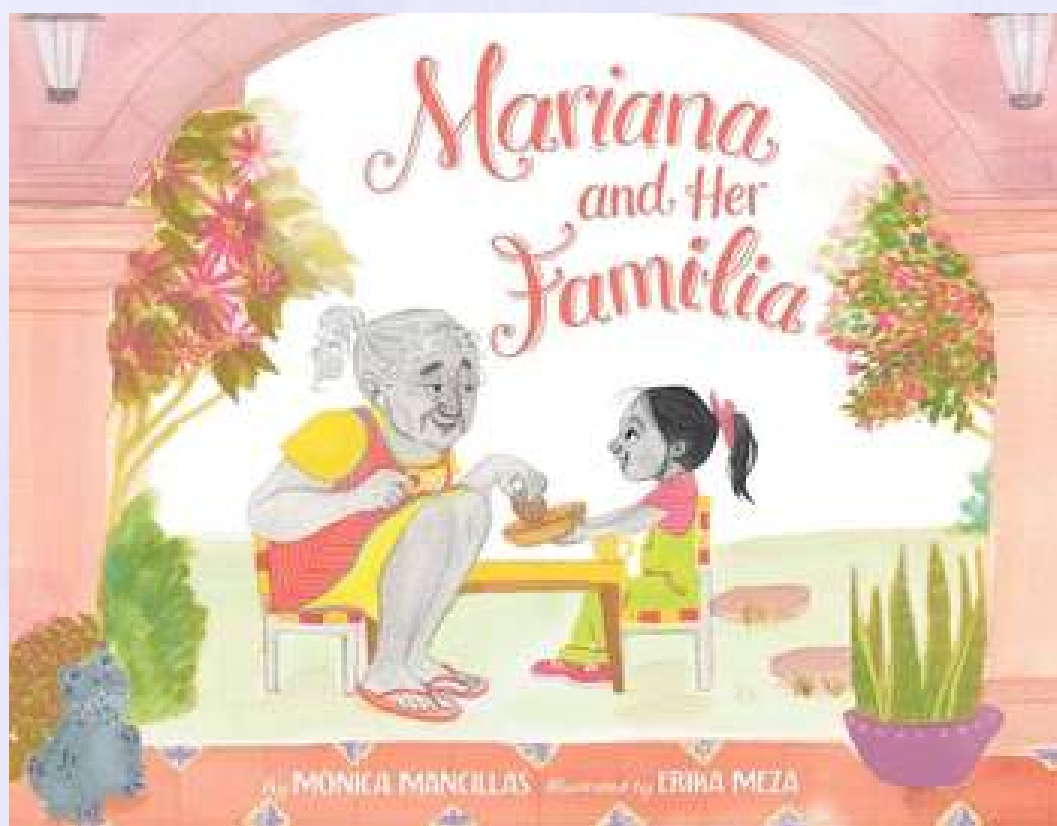
Mariana and Her Familia

Author: Mónica Mancillas

Illustrator: Erika Meza

Mariana is visiting her abuelita and extended family in Mexico for the first time. Her tummy does a flip as she and Mami cross the frontera. There are all new sights, smells, and sounds. And at Abuelita's house, Mariana is overwhelmed by new faces and Spanish phrases she doesn't understand. But with a story, some kindness, and a few new words from Abuelita, Mariana discovers that the love of family knows no cultural divide.

Harper Collins



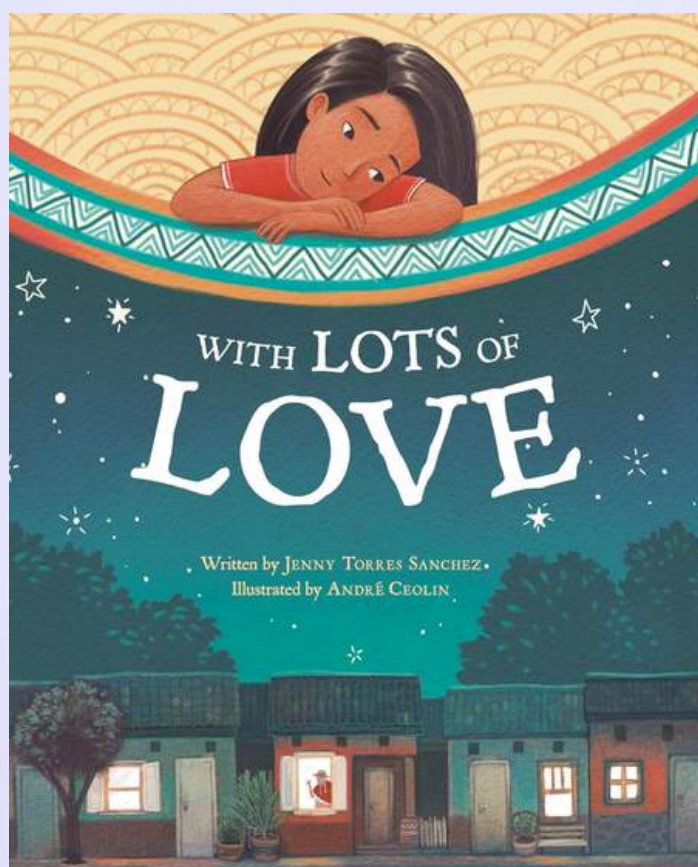
Abuelo, the Sea, and Me

Author: Ismée Williams

Illustrator: Tatiana Gardel

When this grandchild visits her abuelo, he takes her to the ocean. In summer, they kick off their shoes and let the cool waves tickle their toes. In winter, they stand on the cliff and let the sea spray prick their noses and cheeks. No matter the season, hot or cold, their favorite place to spend time together is the beach. It's here that Abuelo is able to open up about his youth in Havana, Cuba. As they walk along the sand, he recalls the tastes, sounds, and smells of his childhood. And with his words, Cuba comes alive for his grandchild.

Roaring Brook Press



With Lots of Love

Author: Jenny Torres Sanchez | Illustrator: André Ceolin

Rocio has grown up in Central America, but now she and her family are moving to the United States. Rocio does her best to adjust to a new way of living, but there are many things she misses from her old life—Abuela's cooking, Abuela's pinata creations, Abuela's warm hugs, and of course, Abuela herself most of all. But Abuela finds a way to send Rocio something special just in time for her birthday—a gift wrapped with lots of love—and that fills Rocio to the brim.

Disponible en español como *Con mucho amor*

Philomel Books

Immigration / Inmigración

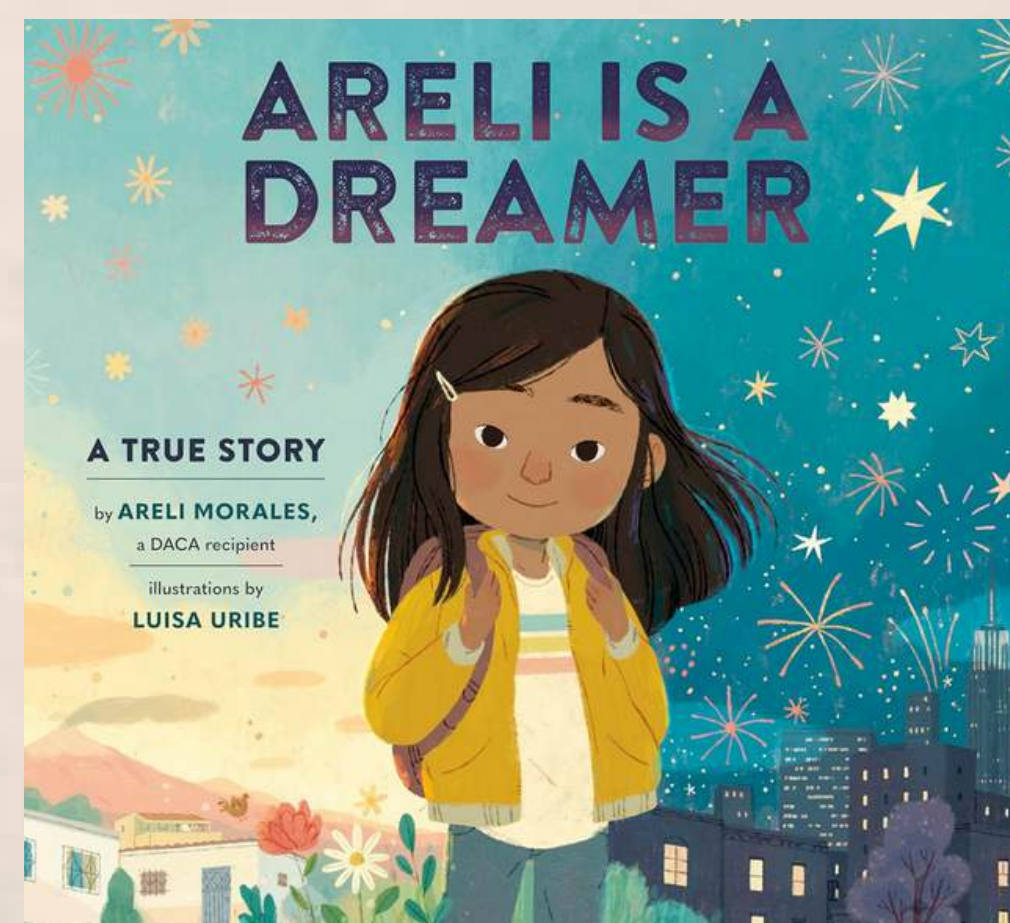
Areli is a Dreamer

Author: Areli Morales | Illustrator: Luisa Uribe

When Areli was just a baby, her mama and papa moved from Mexico to New York with her brother, Alex, to make a better life for the family—and when she was in kindergarten, they sent for her, too. Everything in New York was different. Gone were the Saturdays at Abuela's house, filled with cousins and sunshine. Instead, things were busy and fast and noisy. Areli's limited English came out wrong, and schoolmates accused her of being illegal. But with time, America became her home. And she saw it as a land of opportunity, where millions of immigrants who came before her paved their own paths. She knew she would, too.

Disponible en español como *Areli es una Dreamer*

Random House Studio



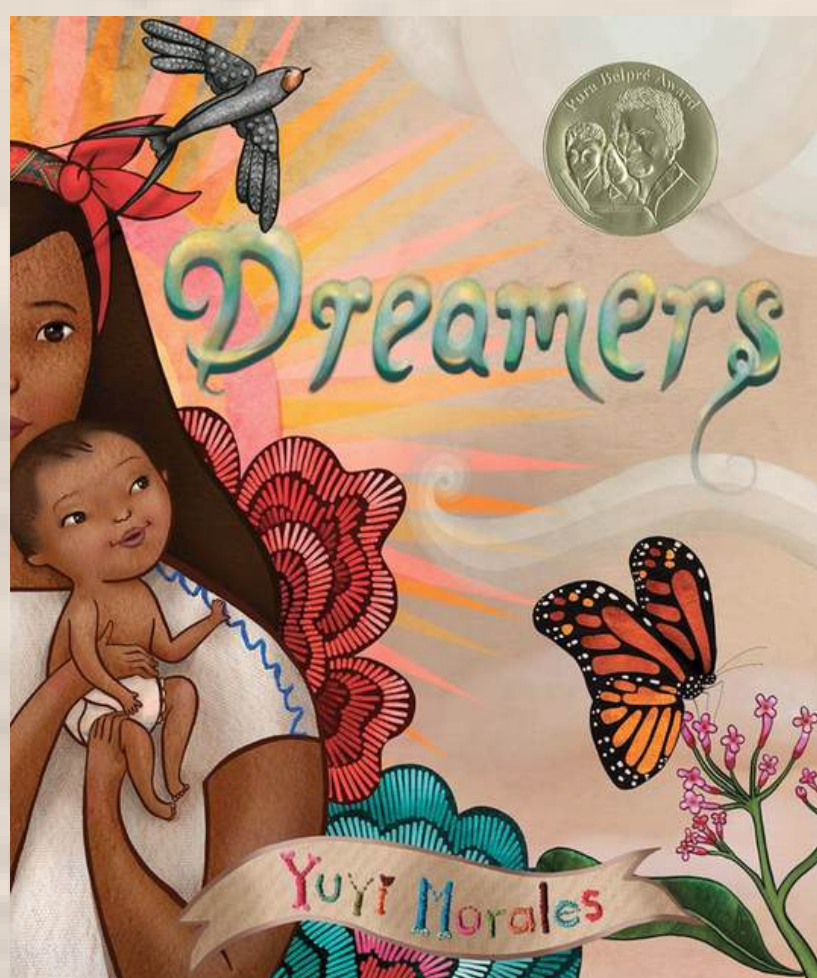
Dreamers

Author & Illustrator: Yuyi Morales

Dreamers is a celebration of making your home with the things you always carry: your resilience, your dreams, your hopes and history. It's the story of finding your way in a new place, of navigating an unfamiliar world and finding the best parts of it. In dark times, it's a promise that you can make better tomorrows. This lovingly-illustrated picture book memoir looks at the myriad gifts migrantes bring with them when they leave their homes. It's a story about family. And it's a story to remind us that we are all dreamers, bringing our own strengths wherever we roam. Beautiful and powerful at any time but given particular urgency as the status of our own Dreamers becomes uncertain, this is a story that is both topical and timeless.

Disponible en español como *Soñadores*

Neal Porter Books

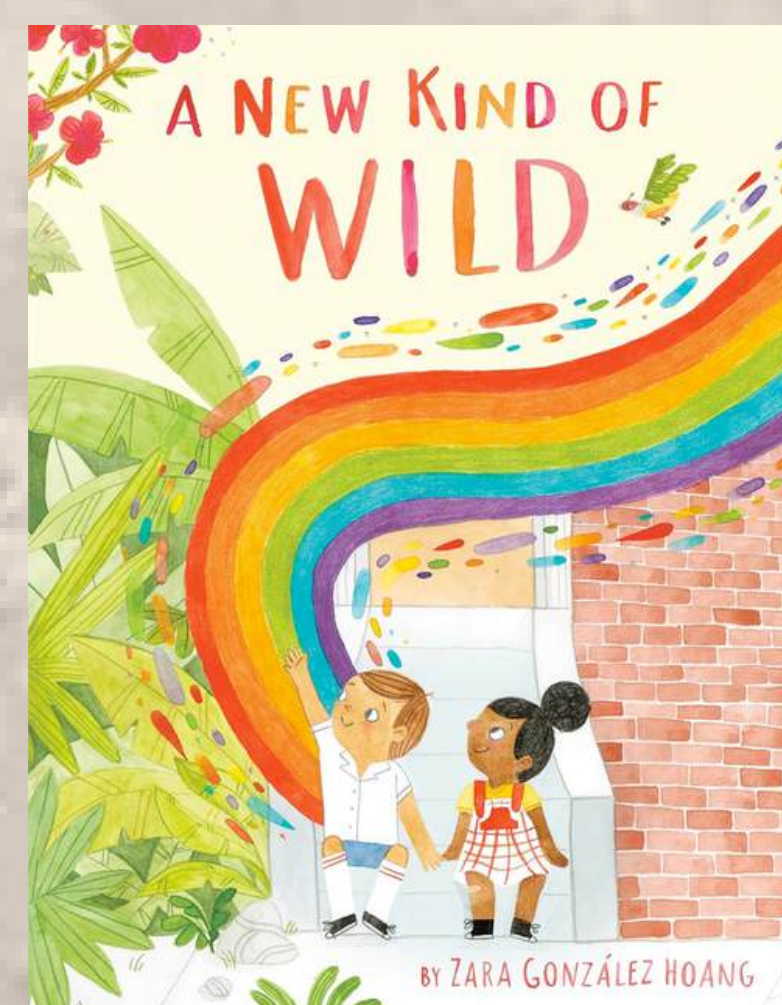


A New Kind of Wild

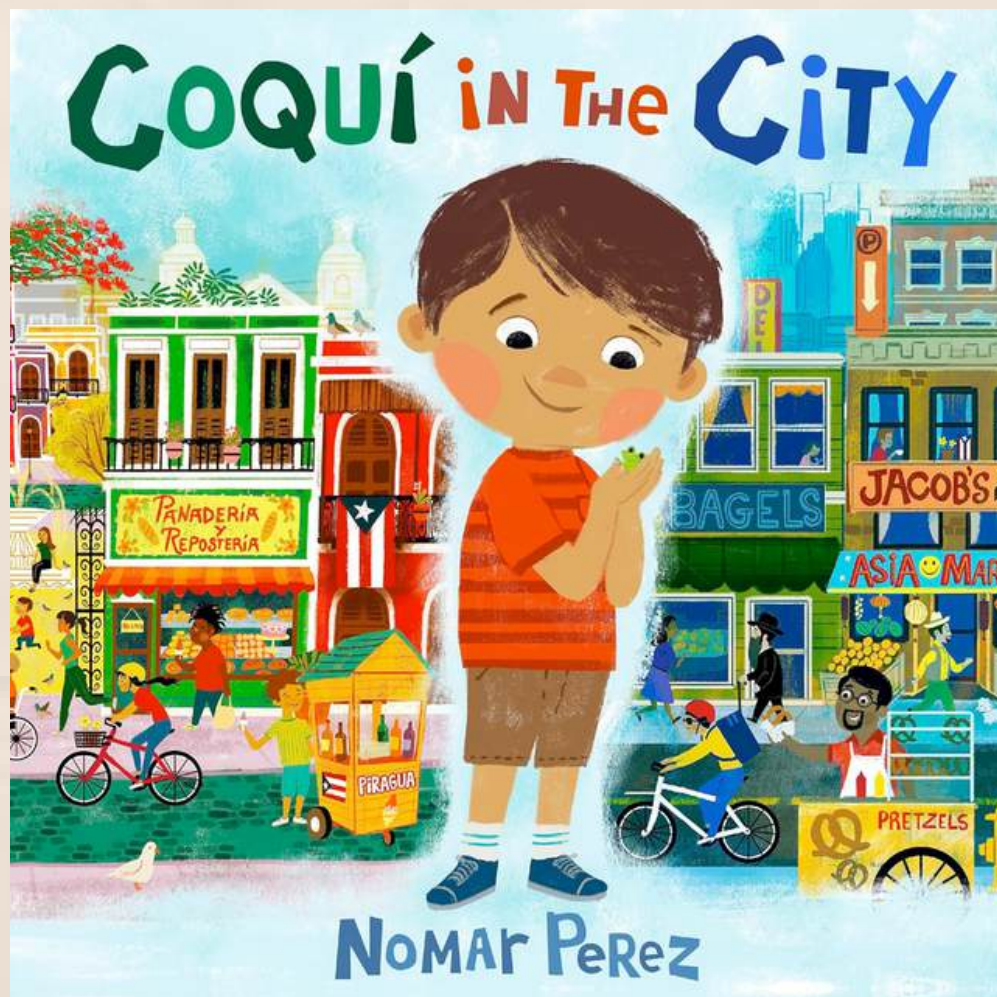
Author & Illustrator: Zara González Hoang

For Ren, home is his grandmother's little house, and the lush forest that surrounds it. Home is a place of magic and wonder, filled with all the fantastical friends that Ren dreams up. Home is where his imagination can run wild. For Ava, home is a brick and cement city, where there's always something to do or see or hear. Home is a place bursting with life, where people bustle in and out like a big parade. Home is where Ava is never lonely because there's always someone to share in her adventures. When Ren moves to Ava's city, he feels lost without his wild. How will he ever feel at home in a place with no green and no magic, where everything is exactly what it seems? Of course, not everything in the city is what meets the eye, and as Ren discovers, nothing makes you feel at home quite like a friend.

Dial Books



Immigration / Inmigración



Coquí in the City

Author & Illustrator: Nomar Perez

Miguel's pet frog, Coquí, is always with him: as he greets his neighbors in San Juan, buys quesitos from the panadería, and listens to his abuelo's story about meeting baseball legend Roberto Clemente. Then Miguel learns that he and his parents are moving to the U.S. mainland, which means leaving his beloved grandparents, home in Puerto Rico, and even Coquí behind. Life in New York City is overwhelming, with unfamiliar buildings, foods, and people. But when he and Mamá go exploring, they find a few familiar sights that remind them of home, and Miguel realizes there might be a way to keep a little bit of Puerto Rico with him—including the love he has for Coquí—wherever he goes.

Disponible en español como *De aquí como el coquí*
Dial Books

A Thousand White Butterflies

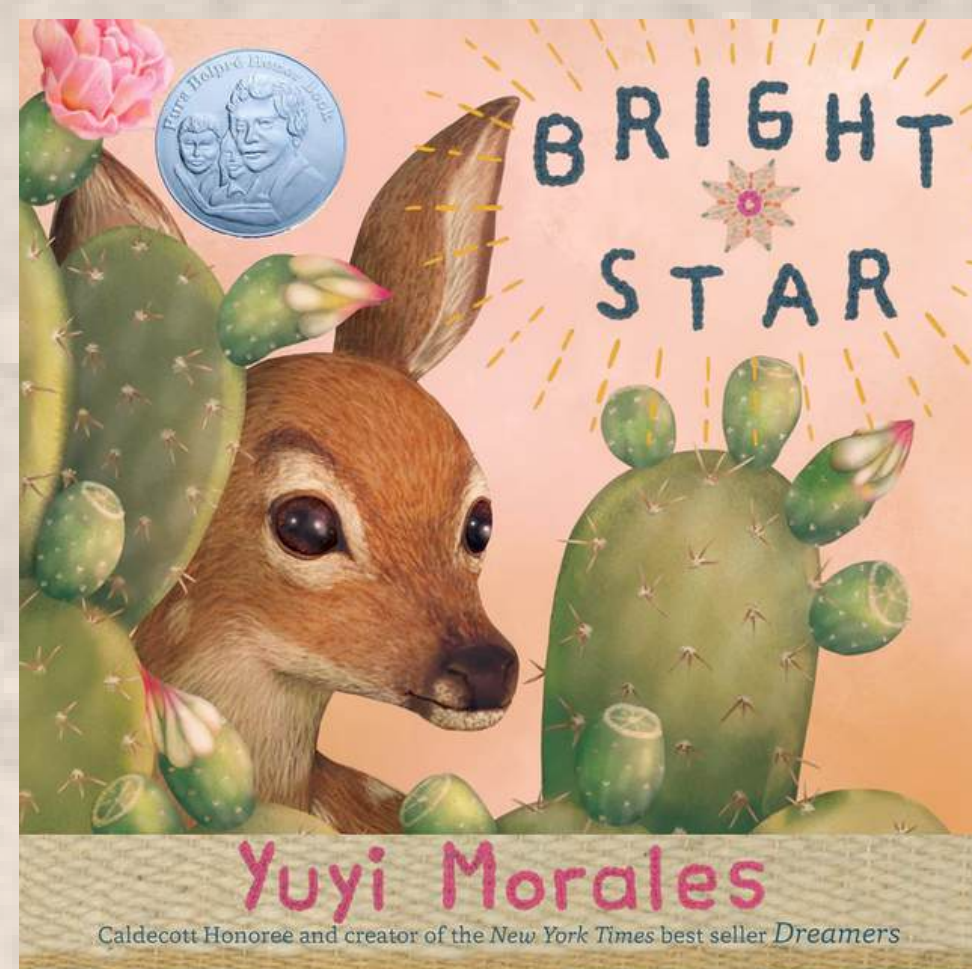
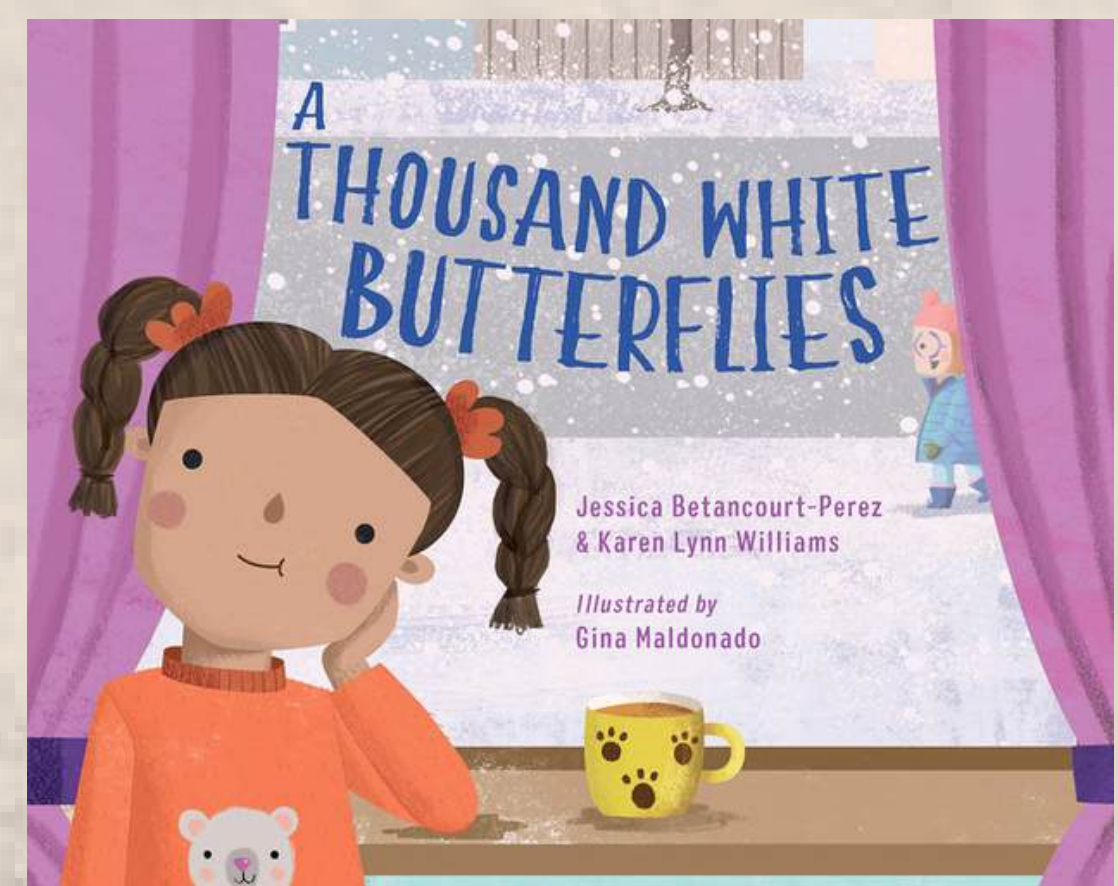
Authors: Jessica Betancourt-Perez &
Karen Lynn Williams

Illustrator: Gina Maldonado

Isabella has recently arrived from Colombia with her mother and abuela. She misses Papa, who is still in South America. It's her first day of school, her make-new-friends day, but when classes are canceled because of too much snow, Isabella misses warm, green, Colombia more than ever. Then Isabella meets Katie and finds out that making friends in the cold is easier than she thought!

Disponible en español como *Mil mariposas blancas*

Charlesbridge



Bright Star

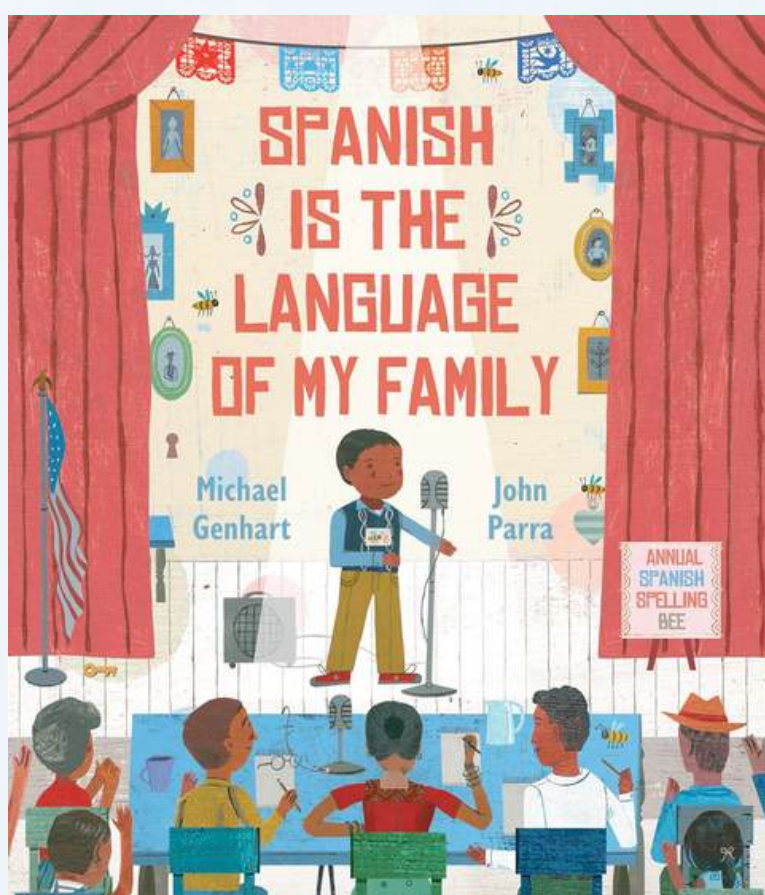
Author & Illustrator: Yuyi Morales

With the combination of powerful, spare language and sumptuous, complex imagery characteristic of her work, Yuyi Morales weaves the tale of a fawn making her way through a landscape that is dangerous, beautiful—and full of potential. A gentle voice urges her onward, to face her fears and challenge the obstacles that seek to hold her back. With a voice full of calm, contemplative wisdom, readers are invited to listen and observe, to accept themselves—and to dare to shout! In a world full of uncertainty, Bright Star seeks to offer reassurance and courage.

Disponible en español como *Lucero*

Neal Porter Books

Language / Lenguas



Spanish is the Language of My Family

Author: Michael Genhart | Illustrator: John Parra

As a boy prepares for his school's Spanish spelling bee, he asks his grandmother for help with some of the words he doesn't know how to spell yet. When she studies with him, she tells him how different things were back when she was a girl, when she was only allowed to speak English in school. This only inspires him to study even harder and make his family proud.

Disponible en español como *El español es la lengua de mi familia*
Neal Porter Books

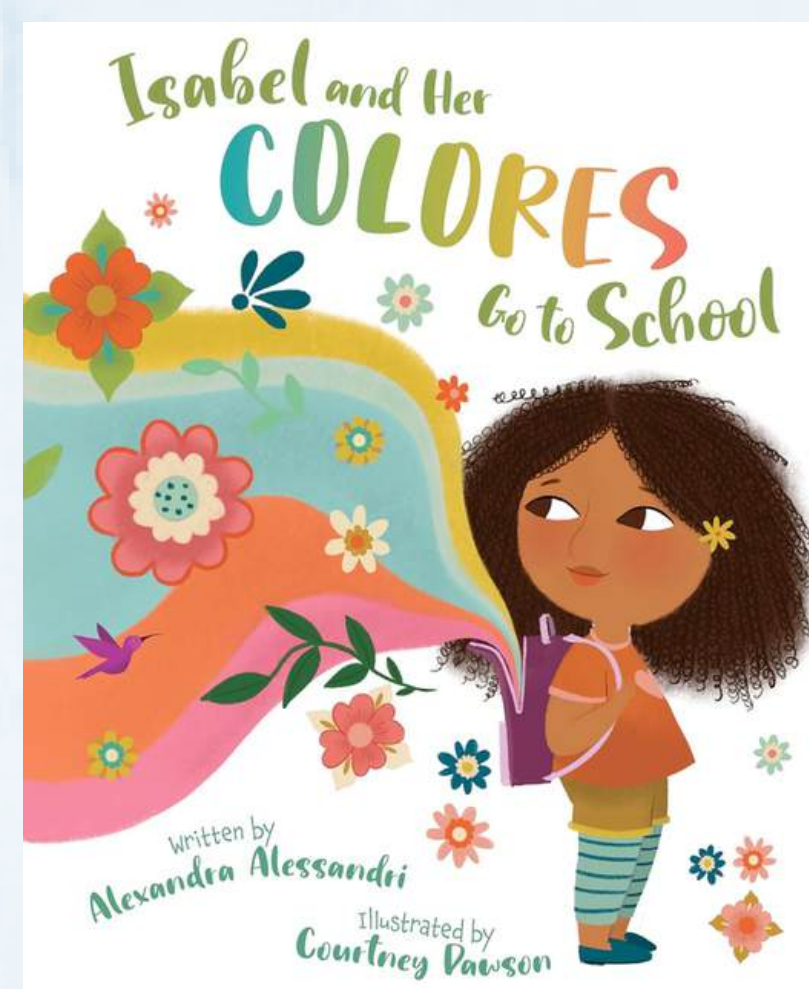
Isabel and Her Colores Go to School

Authors: Alexandra Alessandri

Illustrator: Courtney Dawson

English, with its blustery blues and whites, just feels wrong to Isabel. She prefers the warm oranges and pinks of Spanish. As she prepares for class at a new school, she knows she's going to have to learn—and she would rather not! Her first day is uncomfortable, until she discovers there's more than one way to communicate with friends. This is a universal story about feeling new and making new friends.

Sleeping Bear Press

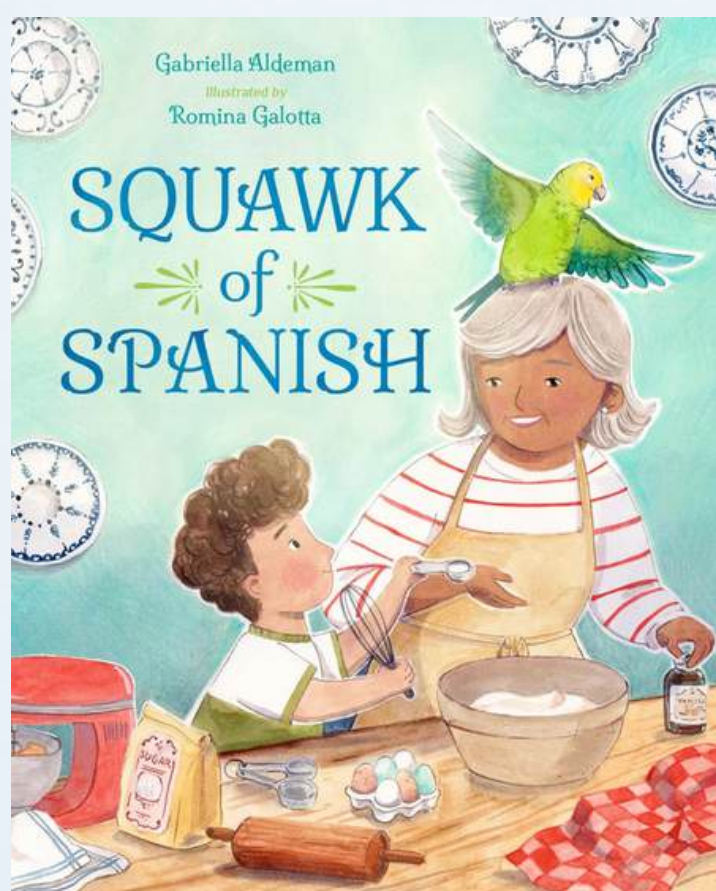


Squawk of Spanish

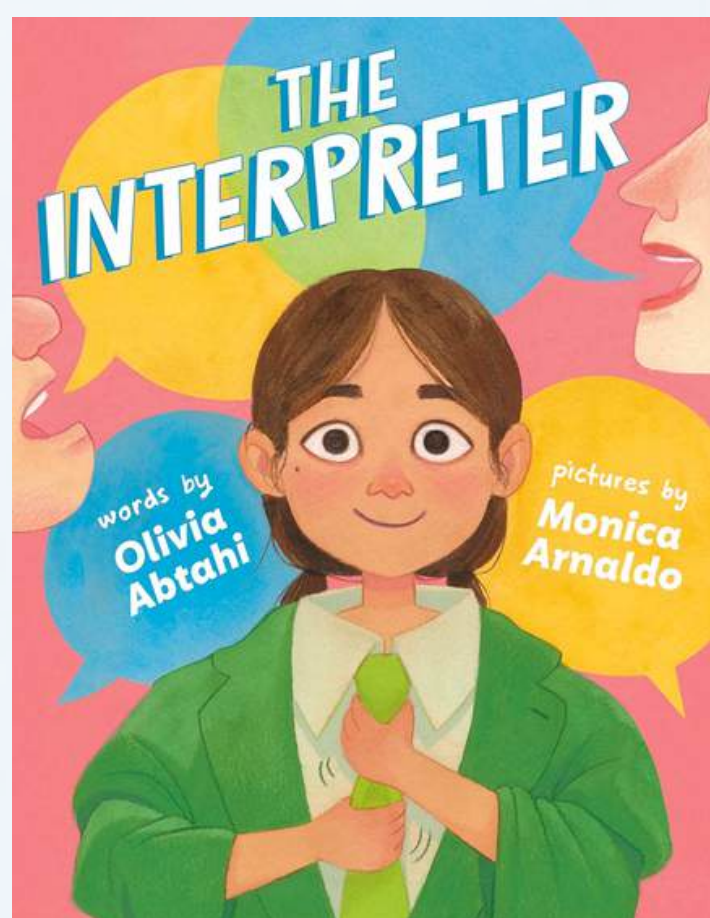
Author: Gabriella Aldeman | Illustrator: Romina Galotta

Max isn't confident with his Spanish, especially rolling his Rs, and his cousins always tease him about it. But he loves spending weekends baking with his Spanish-speaking abuela, while Lorito the parrot helps translate. But when Lorito disappears for a day, Max and Abuela must figure out how to communicate. Max's Spanish doesn't have to be perfect, and Abuela can attempt a little English. Trying is what counts!

Charlesbridge



Language / Lenguas



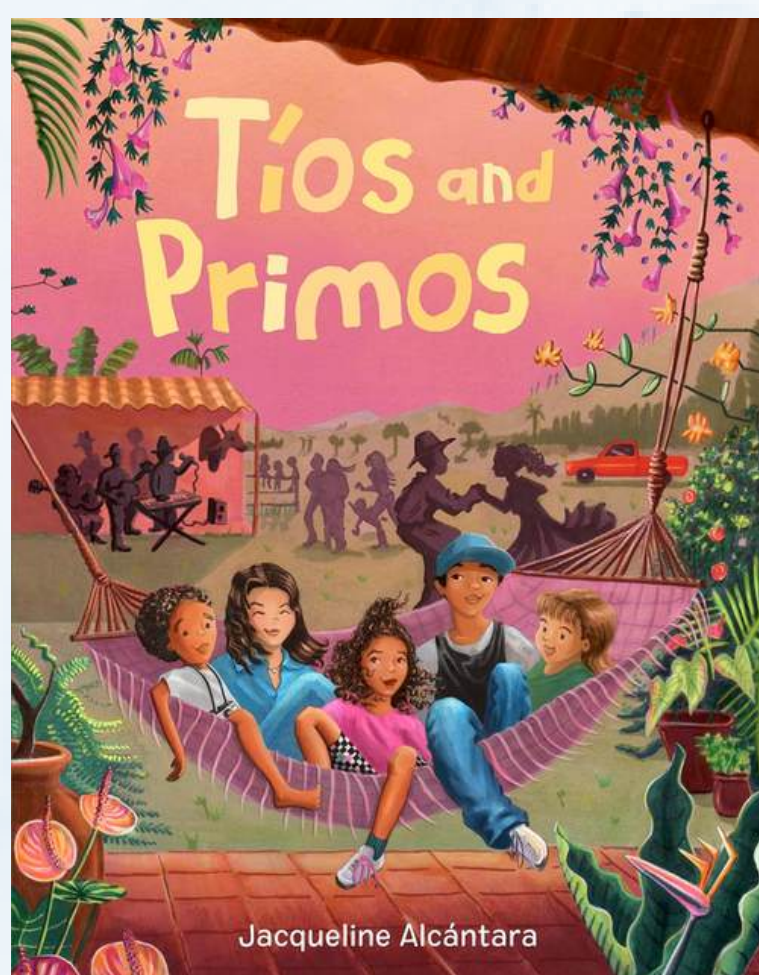
The Interpreter

Author: Olivia Abtahi | Illustrator: Monica Arnaldo

Some kids have one job: to be a kid! Cecilia has two. When she isn't on the soccer field scoring goals, she's accompanying her parents to all kinds of grown-up places, like the DMV, the accountant's office, and the auto shop. She helps them translate from Spanish to English and from English to Spanish. It's an important job, and it can even be fun. It's also hard work. Sometimes Cecilia's second job is so much responsibility, it feels like she'll split in two! Is it time for Cecilia to blow her whistle and call for a time-out?

Disponible en español como *La intérprete*

Kokila



Tíos and Primos

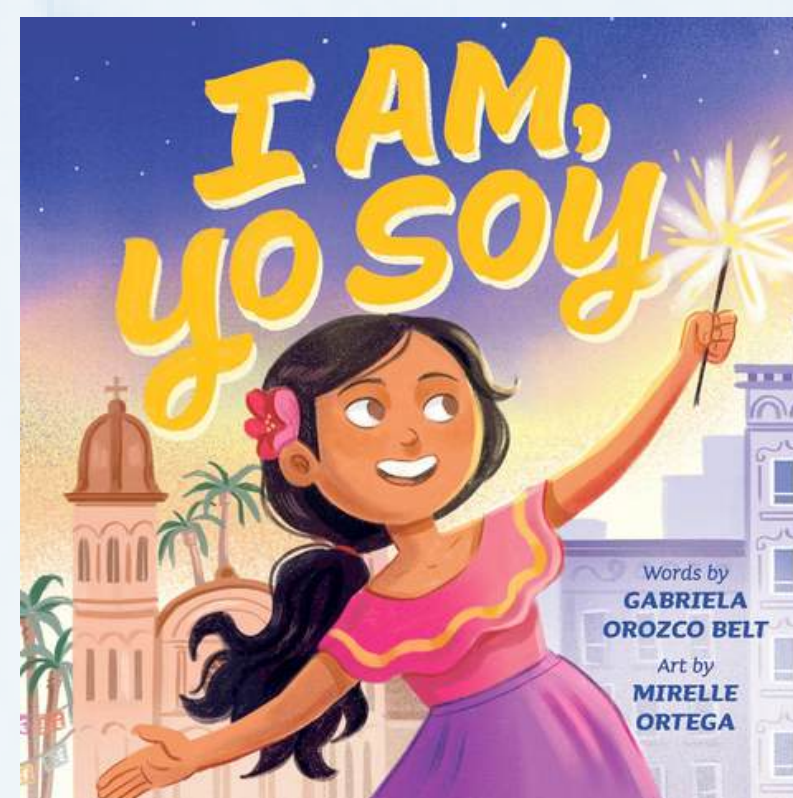
Author & Illustrator:

Jacqueline Alcántara

It's a little girl's first trip to her papa's homeland, and she's wowed by all the amazing sights and sounds—and especially by the size of her enormous family! But she only knows a little Spanish, and it's hard not to be able to share jokes and stories. Fortunately, her relatives help her see that there are other ways they can connect, and soon she feels like she's right where she belongs: in the heart of a loving family, learning as she goes along.

Disponible en español como *Tíos y primos*

Nancy Paulsen Books



I Am, Yo Soy

Author: Gabriela Orozco Belt

Illustrator: Mirelle Ortega

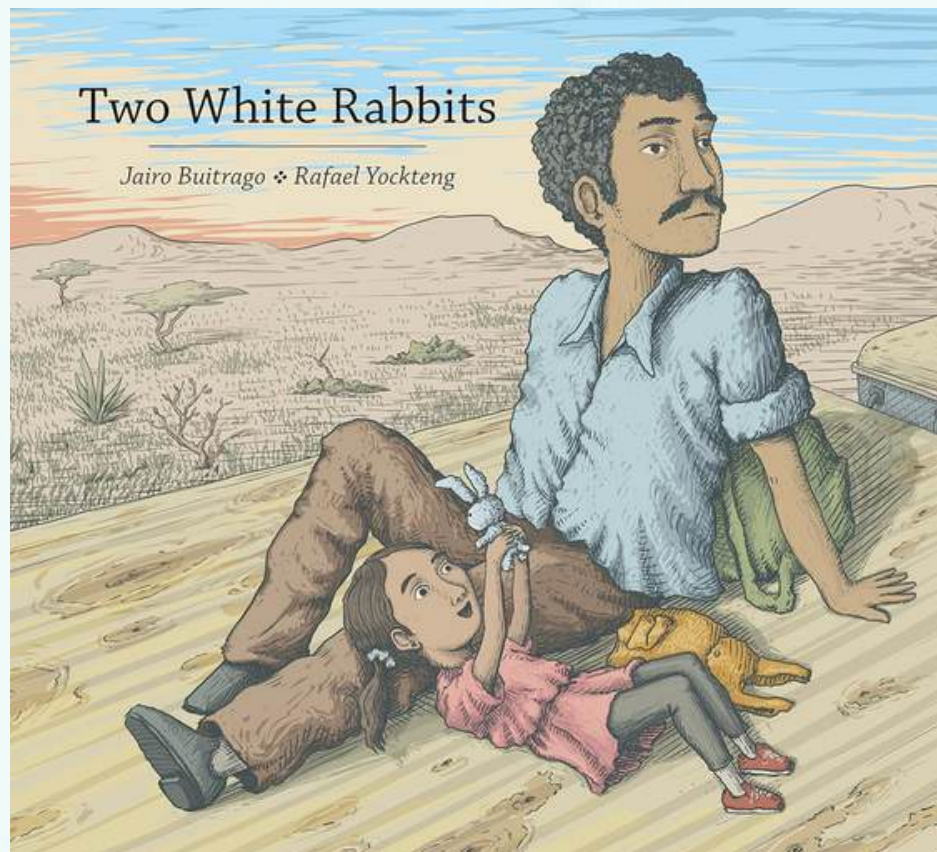
A lyrical dual-lingual picture book about the beauty of being part of two cultures: *I'm from here y soy de allá*. With lyrical text in English and Spanish, this vibrant picture book is a celebration of Hispanic American identity—showcasing the beauty of being part of two cultures.

HarperCollins

Migration Journeys / Viajes migratorios

Two White Rabbits

Author: Jairo Buitrago | Illustrator: Rafael Yockteng



In this moving and timely story, a young child describes what it is like to be a migrant as she and her father travel north toward the US border. They travel mostly on the roof of a train known as The Beast, but the little girl doesn't know where they are going. She counts the animals by the road, the clouds in the sky, the stars. Sometimes she sees soldiers. She sleeps, dreaming that she is always on the move, although sometimes they are forced to stop and her father has to earn more money before they can continue their journey. As many thousands of people, especially children, in Mexico and Central America continue to make the arduous journey to the US border in search of a better life, this is an important book that shows a young migrant's perspective.

Disponible en español como *Dos conejos blancos*

Groundwood Books

The Notebook Keeper

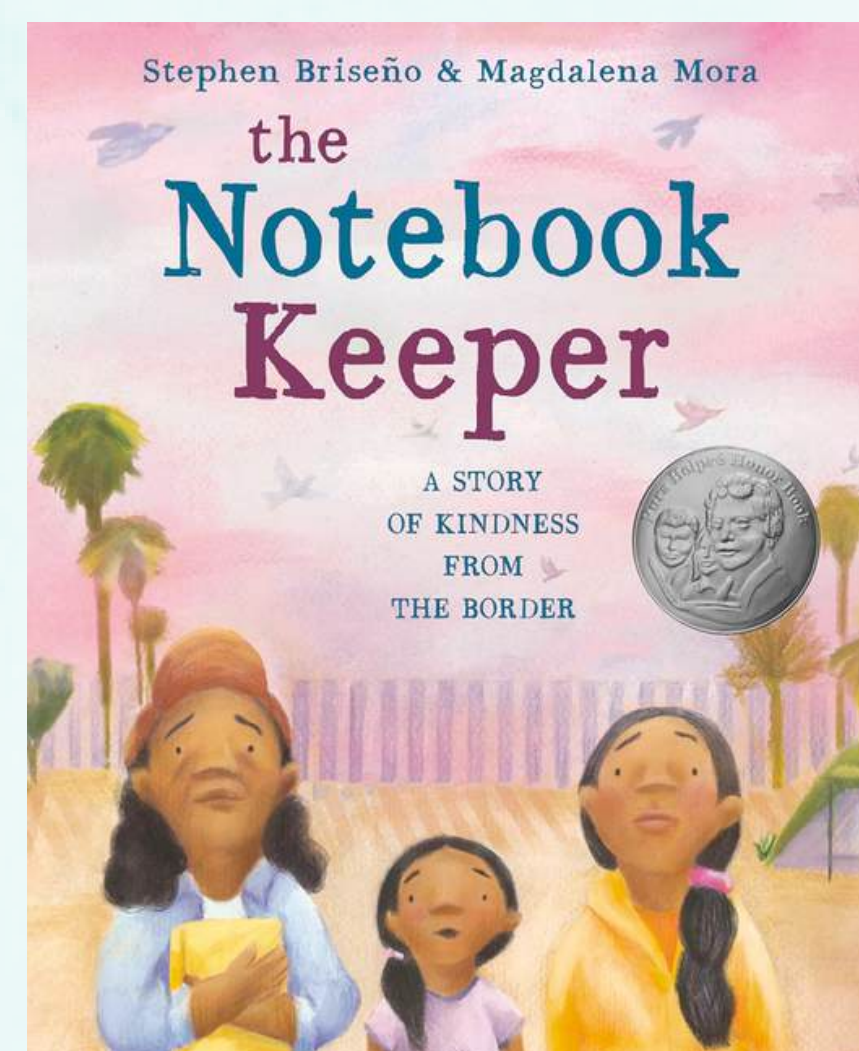
Author: Stephen Briseño

Illustrator: Magdalena Mora

In this moving and stunningly-illustrated picture book, Noemi and Mama flee their home in Mexico, and head for the US border. There, they look for "The Notebook Keeper"-- the person in charge of a ledger for those waiting to cross, and they add their names to the book. As the days turn into weeks, and hope dwindles, the little girl looks for kindness around her-- and inside herself. One day, when the Notebook Keeper's own name is called to cross, Noemi and her Mama are chosen--for the generosity in their hearts-- to take her place.

Disponible en español como *La guardiana de la libreta*

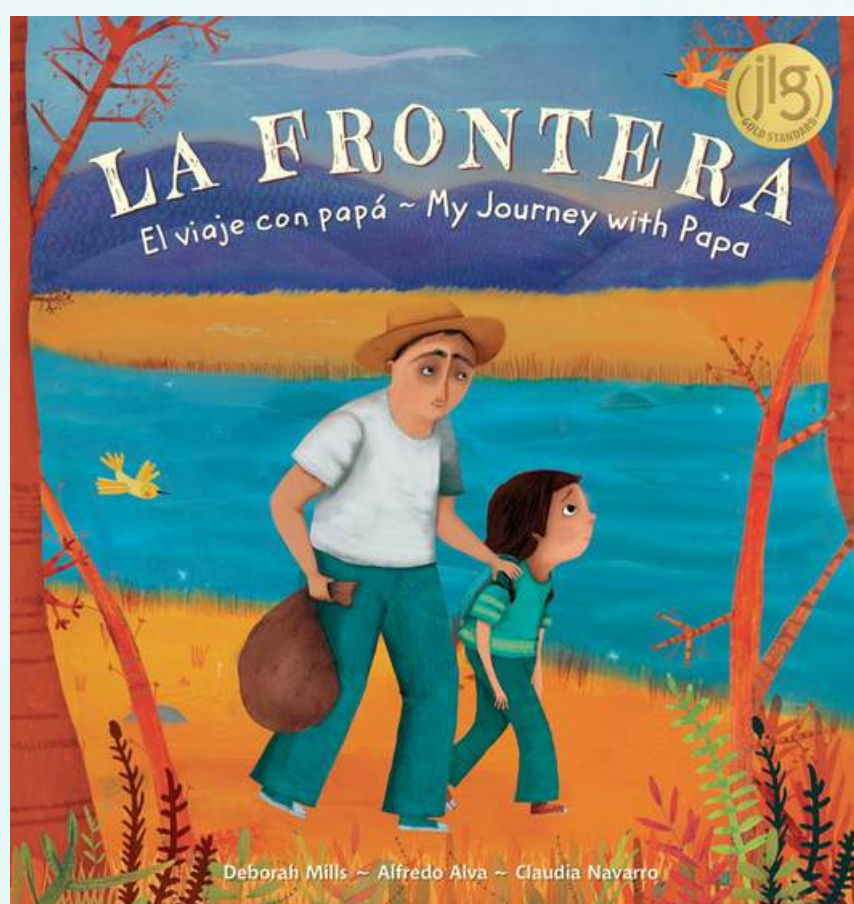
Random House Studio



La Frontera: El viaje con papá

Authors: Alfredo Alva & Deborah Mills

Illustrator: Claudia Navarro



For over 100 years, Alfredo's family has lived in the same small village in Mexico. He loves playing with his siblings, helping his abuelo stack corn, and spending time with his donkey Fernando. But when Alfredo's Abuelo can no longer make the long walk to the pine forest to provide for the family, Alfredo and his Papa must set out to find a new home and work to support their family. And so begins a long, arduous journey from Mexico to the United States. They'll need all the courage they can muster to safely cross the border and to make a home for themselves in a new land.

Barefoot Books

Music / Música

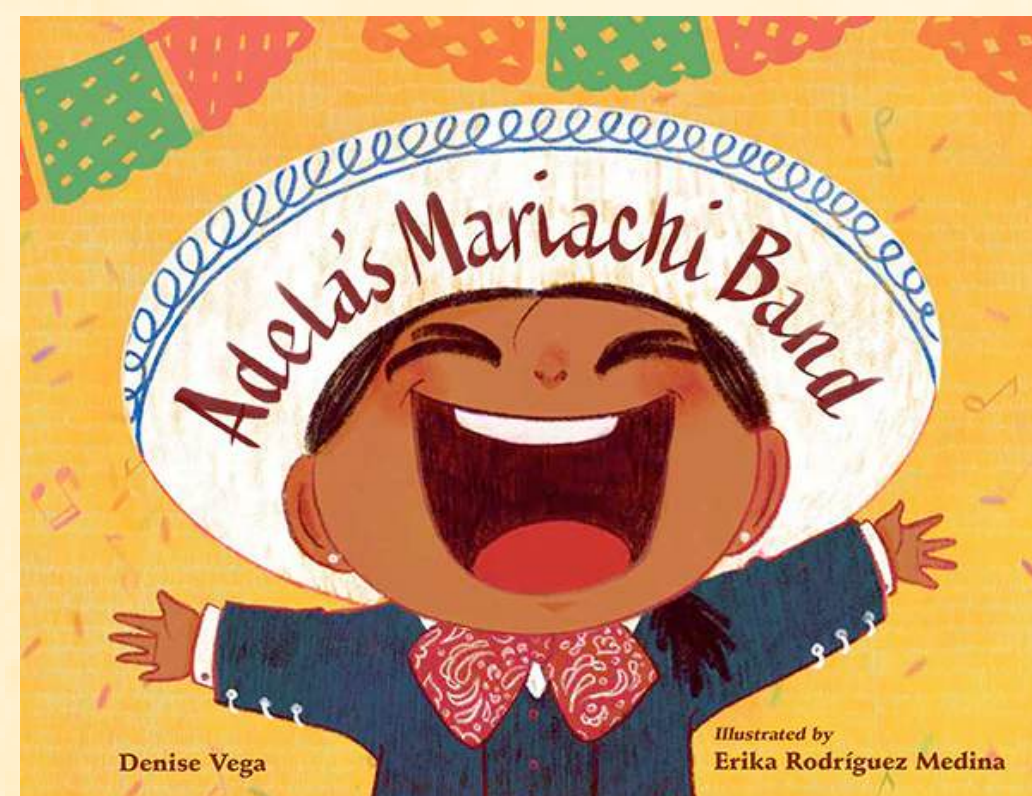
Adela's Mariachi Band

Author: Denise Vega

Illustrator: Erika Rodríguez Medina

Adela wants nothing more than to be a part of her family's mariachi band, but when she tries the different instruments, everything comes out wrong. La trompeta fizzles, la vihuela squeaks, and trying to dance makes Adela fall on her face. From watching her family, Adela knows that practice makes perfect, but can she find a way to be part of the band in the meantime?

Disponible en español como *Los mariachis de Adela*
Charlesbridge



Desert Song

Author: Laekan Zea Kemp

Illustrator: Beatriz Gutiérrez Hernández

A family joins the music of the Texas desert night in this tale of tradition and memory. As the blush of sunset gives way to night in the desert, coyotes, cicadas, and barn owls emerge, each calling out to the moon. Watching from their porch, the family joins the song. One by one, each relative offers their drums, flute, maracas, strings, and voices. They sing with the insects, birds, snakes and toads; and they sing with their ancestors, an audience glittering in the stars overhead. With each strum of passed-down instruments, memories renew, and those gone are alive and near again.

Disponible en español como *Cancion del desierto*
Neal Porter Books

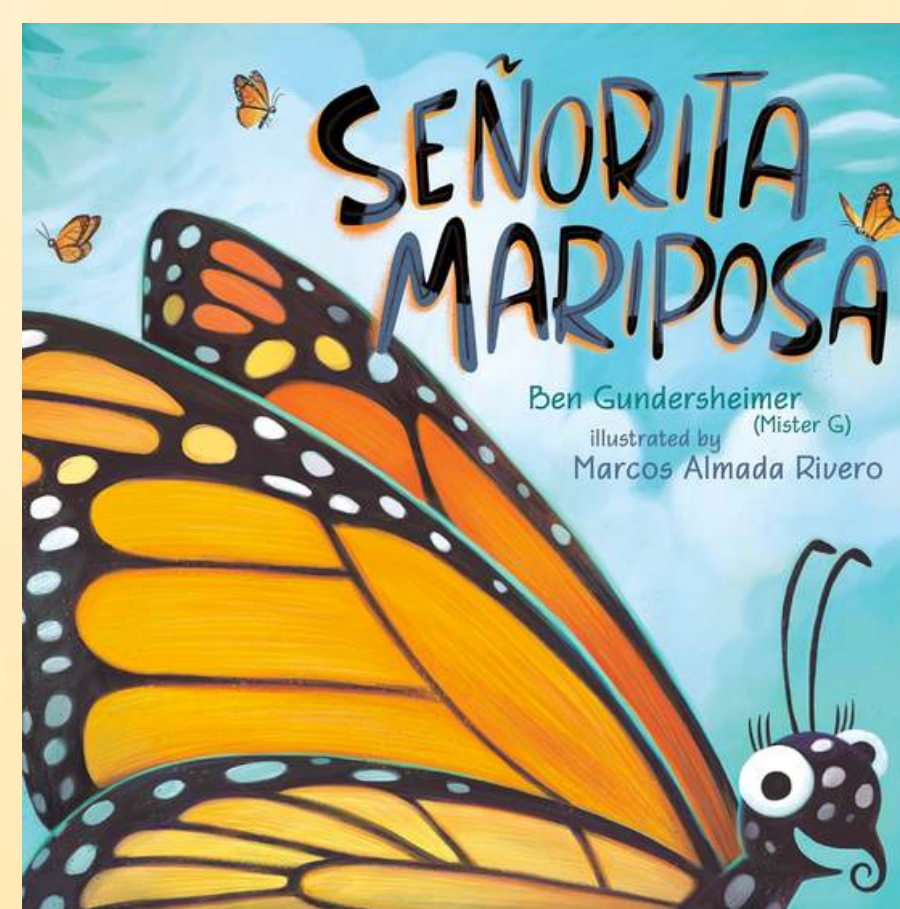
Señorita Mariposa

Author: Ben Gundersheimer (Mister G)

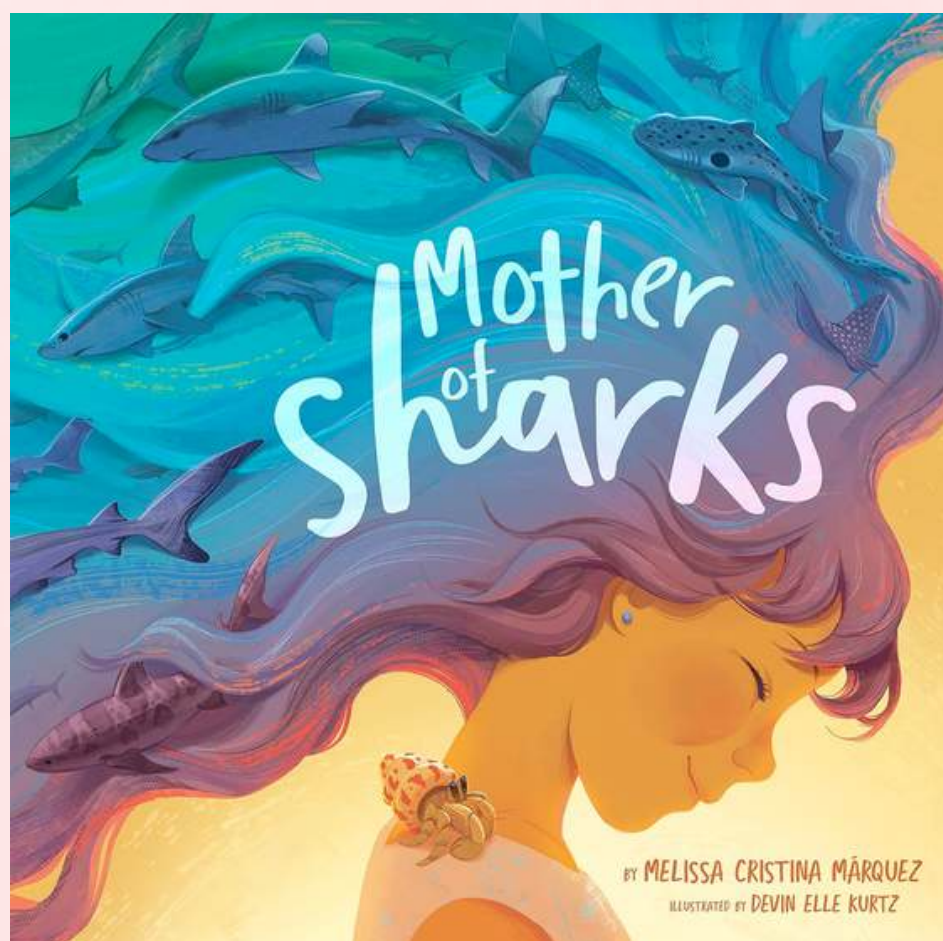
Illustrator: Marcos Almada Rivero

Rhyming text and lively illustrations showcase the epic trip taken by the monarch butterflies. At the end of each summer, these international travelers leave Canada to fly south to Mexico for the winter--and now readers can come along for the ride! Over mountains capped with snow, to the deserts down below. Children will be delighted to share in the fascinating journey of the monarchs and be introduced to the people and places they pass before they finally arrive in the forests that their ancestors called home.

Nancy Paulsen Books



Science / Ciencia



Mother of Sharks

Author: Melissa Cristina Márquez

Illustrator: Devin Elle Kurtz

As the sun sets over another gorgeous day at la Playita Del Condado in Puerto Rico, Meli doesn't want to go home. She loves the ocean more than anything, and with only five minutes left at the beach, she knows exactly where her last stop should be: the tidal pools. They are small universes of their own teeming with critters and creatures of the ocean. While looking into the pools, she meets a crab, Jaiba, who takes her on a dreamlike underwater adventure, teaches her about the importance of shark conservation, and reveals Meli's ultimate destiny: to become the Mother of Sharks.

Disponible en español como *Madre de los tiburones*

Penguin Workshop



The Astronaut with a Song for the Stars: The Story of Dr. Ellen Ochoa

Author: Julia Finley Mosca

Illustrator: Daniel Rieley

Growing up in a family of immigrants, Ellen dreamed of becoming a professional flutist, but all of that changed when she discovered engineering in college. Though she was told that field of study wasn't for girls, the bright young scientist refused to give up—ultimately becoming a NASA astronaut who shattered barriers and rocketed to success!

The Innovation Press



En el patio de Lucas

Author & Illustrator: Isset M. Pastrana Andino

The main character of the story is Lucas, a boy who enjoys being in nature. Like all children, he likes to observe, analyze, and investigate what is happening around him. That's why he decides to plant and cultivate the seed he found in his yard. He carefully tended it, using nature's resources such as water, sun, and wind. In this way, he enjoyed the germination process of the plant, which he surprisingly discovered was a miramelinda. Lucas recognizes the importance of valuing, respecting, and cultivating our land as a gift of love.

Leer es Crecer, LLC

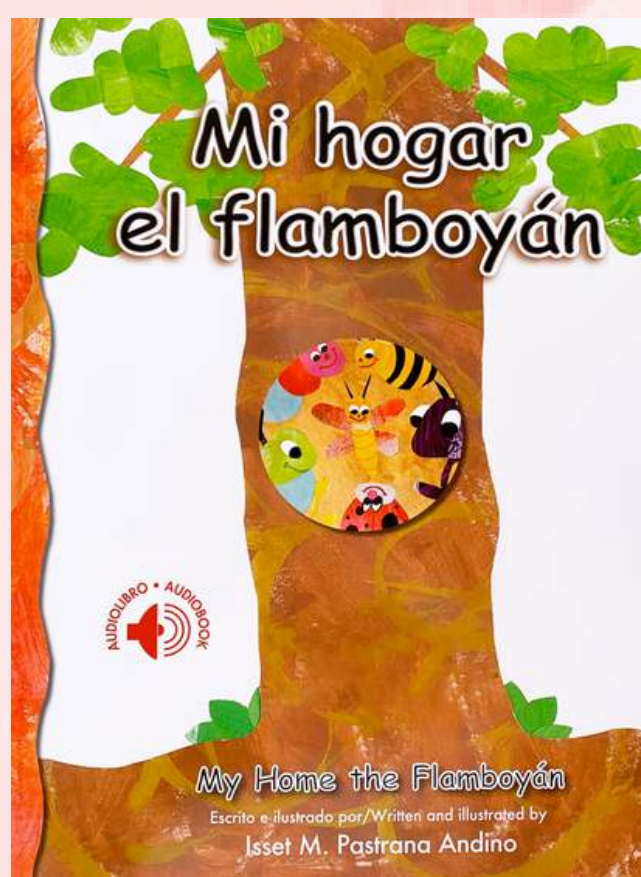
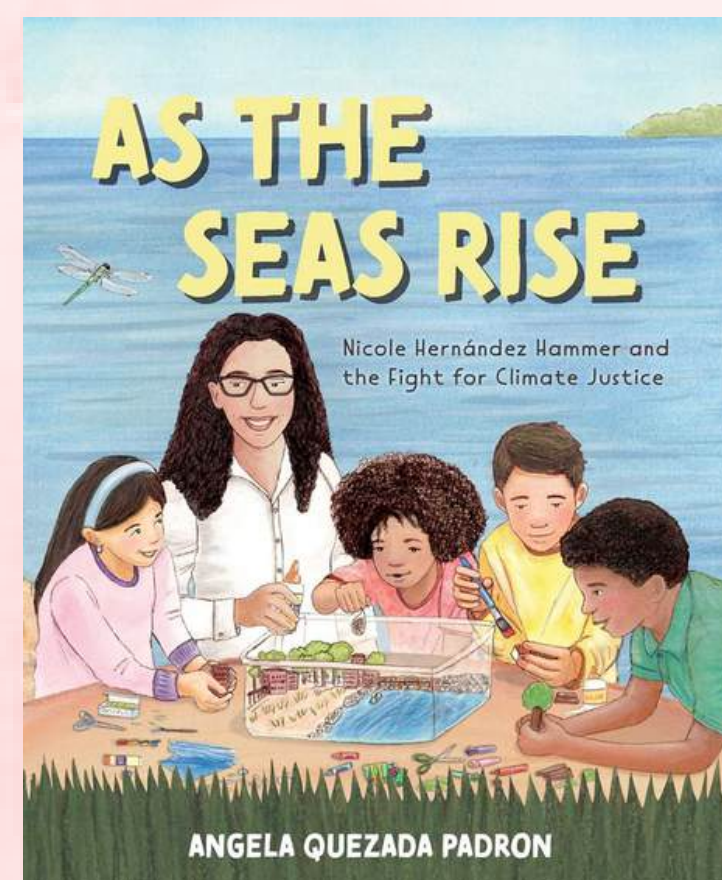
Science / Ciencia

As the Seas Rise: Nicole Hernández Hammer and the Fight for Climate Justice

Author & Illustrator: Angela Quezada Padron

As a baby, Nicole survived an earthquake in Guatemala. She grew up in Guatemala's beautiful jungles. Throughout her life, Nicole witnessed the power and wonder of nature. But she soon realized nature was in trouble. Her own community in Florida was struggling. And everyone needed to become resilient.

Atheneum Books for Young Readers



Mi hogar el flamboyán

Author & Illustrator: Isset M. Pastrana Andino

"Why are you so majestic?" This is the question the animals in this delightful tale ask the flamboyant tree again and again, as they marvel at its brilliant colors, delicate blossoms, strong branches, and the sturdy trunk that supports it. What secret could lie hidden deep within this majestic tree that everyone gazes upon and admires? When will the rooster, the hen, the horse, the piglets, the little warbler, and the curious Mr. Owl finally uncover it?

Leer es Crecer, LLC

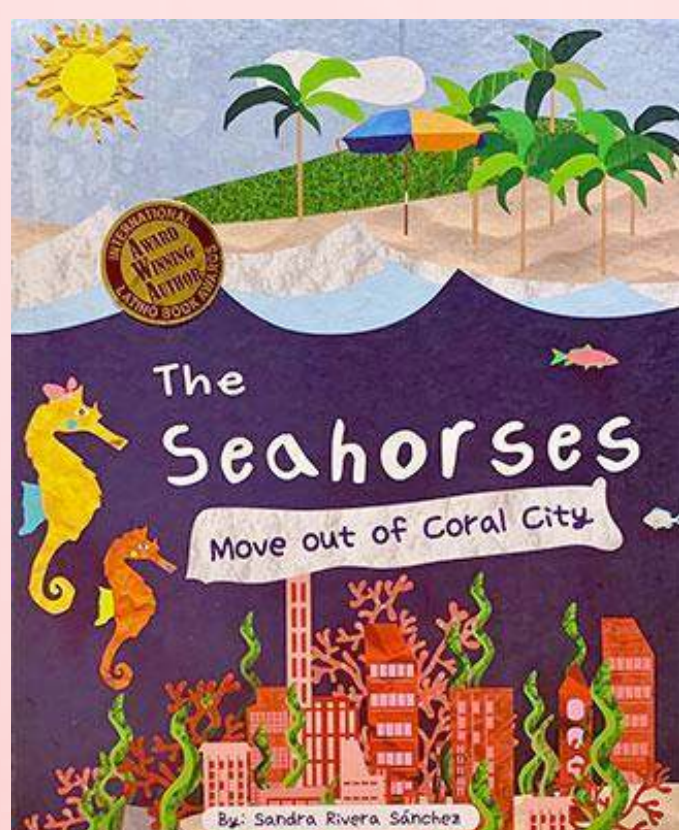
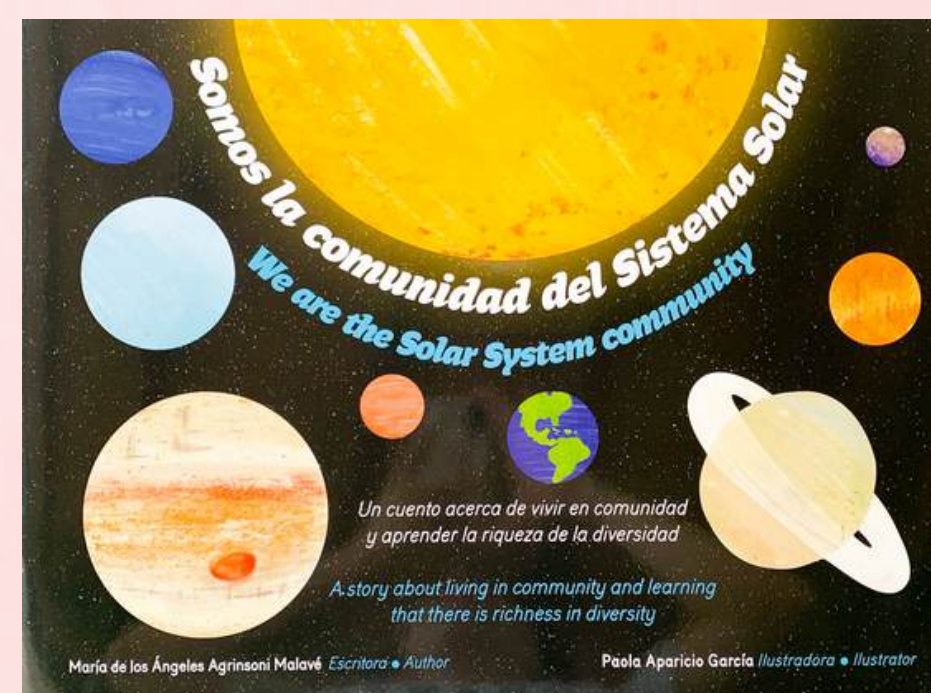
We are the Solar System community

Author: María de los Ángeles Agrinsoni Malavé

Illustrator: Paola Aparicio García

"In the vast expanse of space, the planets debated which of them all was the best..." A story about living in community and discovering the richness of diversity.

Leer es Crecer, LLC



The Seahorses Move Out of Coral City

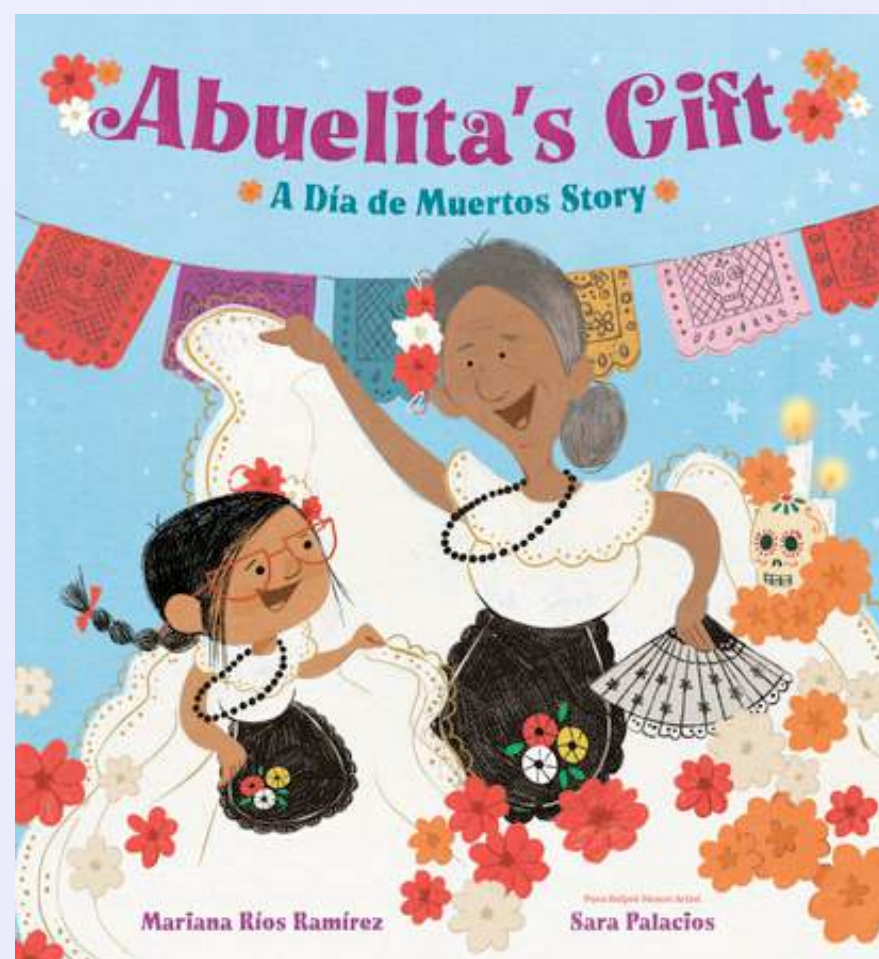
Author: Sandra Rivera Sánchez

Seahorses are losing their habitat, red corals, due to so much trash. They must move immediately... but not before returning the trash to the beach! Discover how seahorses recycle trash while sending us an important message.

Disponible en español como *Los caballitos de mar se mudan el coral*

Tales and Spice, LLC

More to Explore / Más para explorar:



Abuelita's Gift

Author: Mariana Ríos Ramírez | Illustrator: Sara Palacios

Julieta is excited for Abuelita's spirit to visit on Día de los Muertos. She is determined to find the perfect gift to honor Abuelita and to show how much she misses her. However, her ideas fail one by one and Julieta grows worried. It is only when Julieta embraces the memories she once shared with her abuelita, that she realizes the perfect gift comes from the heart. An uplifting story about both life and death, family, and the threads that connect us, long after we are gone.

Disponible en español como *El regalo de abuelita*

Knopf Books for Young Readers

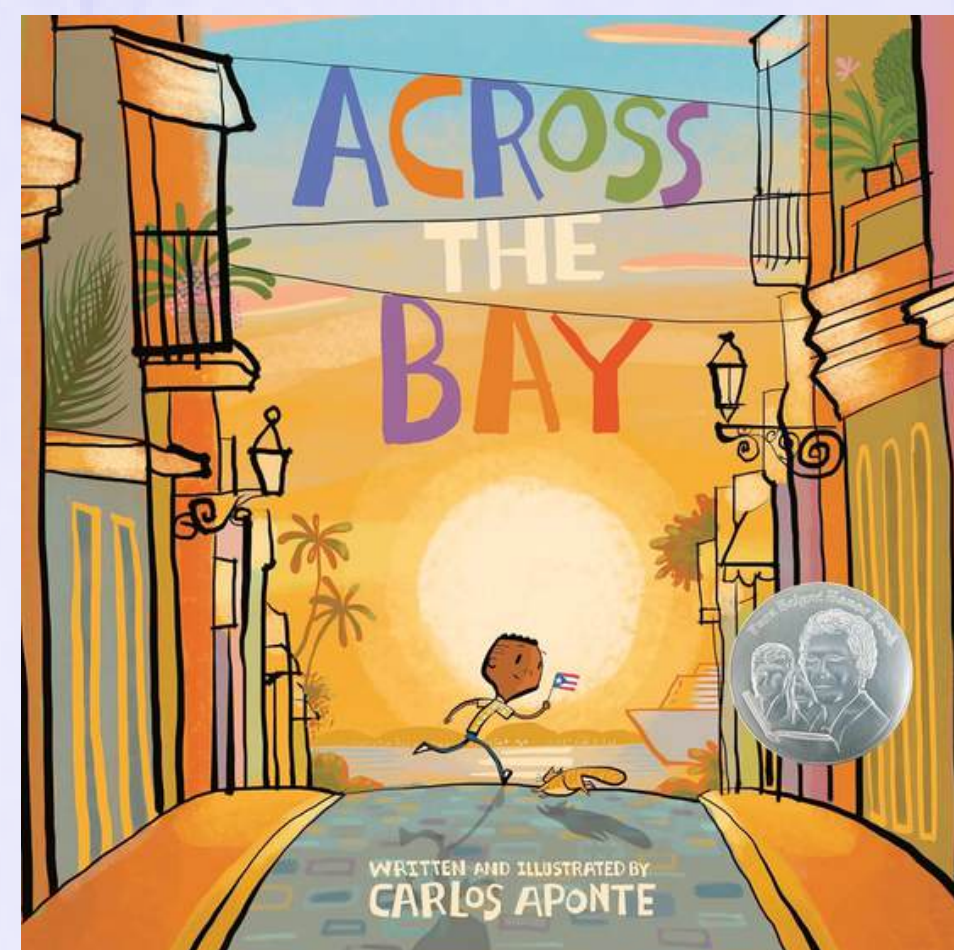
Across the Bay

Author & Illustrator: Carlos Aponte

Carlitos lives in a happy home with his mother, his abuela, and Coco the cat. Life in his hometown is cozy as can be, but the call of the capital city pulls Carlitos across the bay in search of his father. Jolly piragüeros, mischievous cats, and costumed musicians color this tale of love, family, and the true meaning of home.

Disponible en español como *Al otro lado de la bahía*

Penguin Workshop



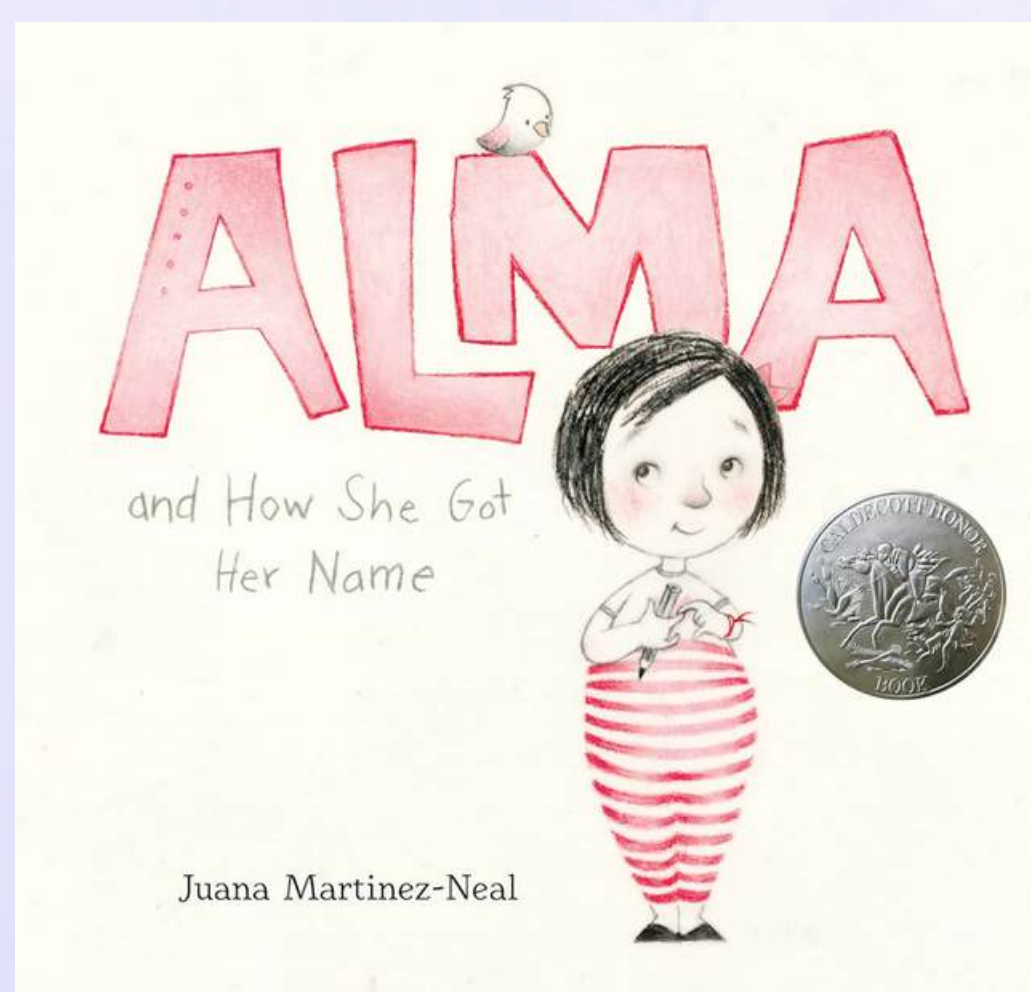
Alma and How She Got Her Name

Author & Illustrator: Juana Martinez-Neal

If you ask her, Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela has way too many names: six! How did such a small person wind up with such a large name? Alma turns to Daddy for an answer and learns of Sofia, the grandmother who loved books and flowers; Esperanza, the great-grandmother who longed to travel; José, the grandfather who was an artist; and other namesakes, too. As she hears the story of her name, Alma starts to think it might be a perfect fit after all—and realizes that she will one day have her own story to tell.

Disponible en español como *Alma y cómo obtuvo su nombre*

Candlewick



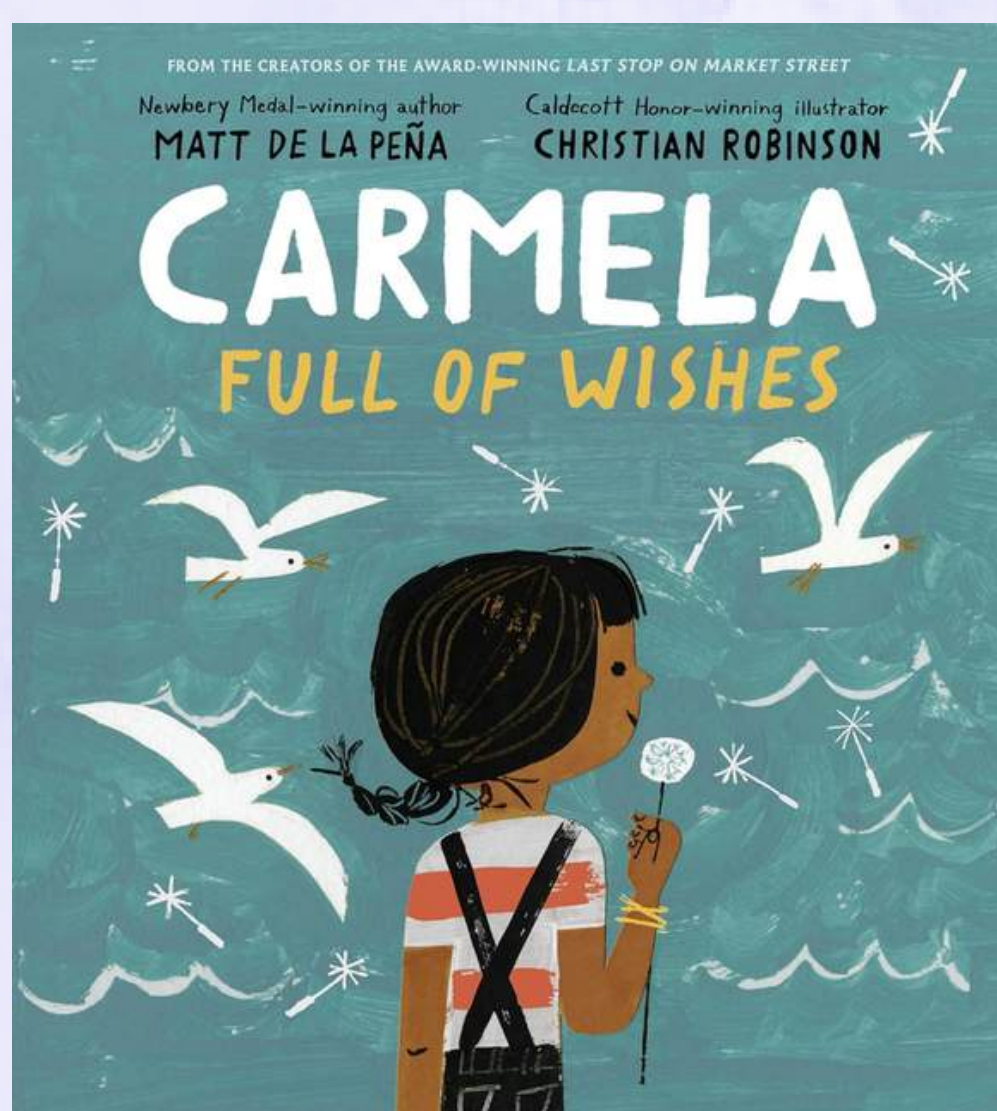
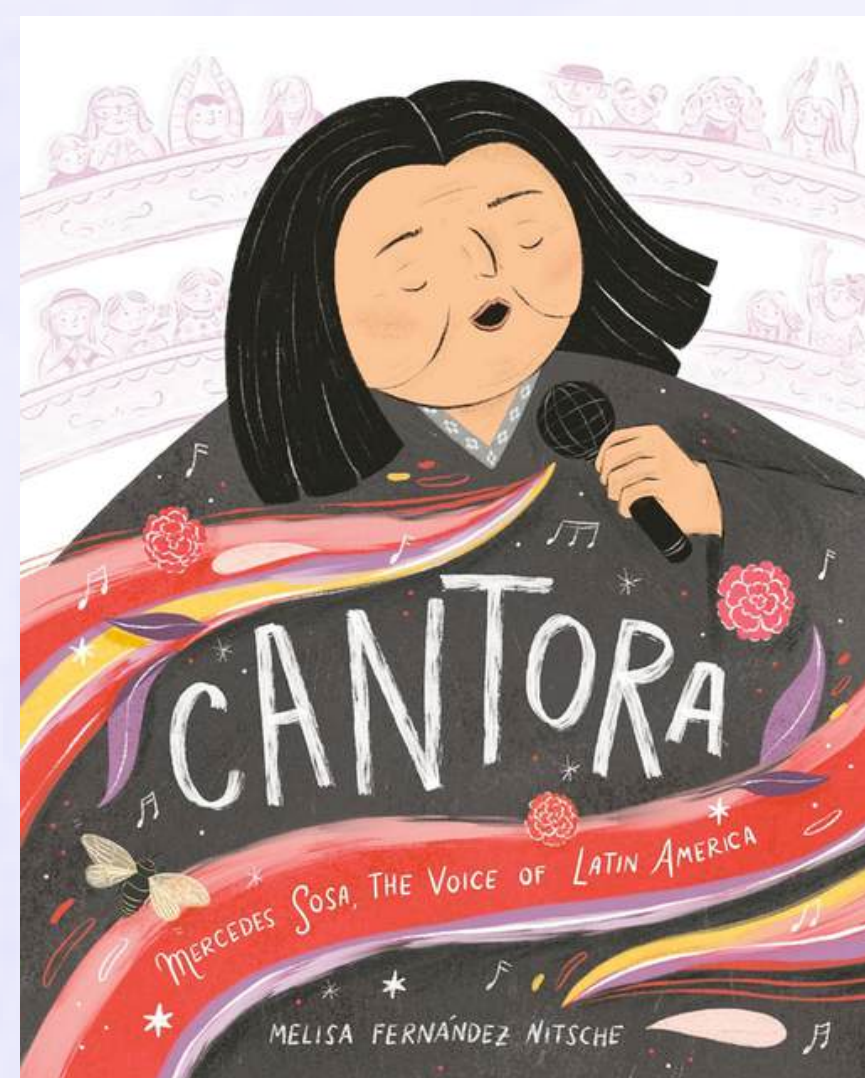
Cantora

Author & Illustrator: Melisa Fernández Nitsche

The folk rhythm of the bombo drum beats like a heart, with a resonant voice singing the truth of her people. Mercedes Sosa sang about what it means to be human, and her songs of struggle always spoke the truth of the injustice that so many workers and families in Latin America faced. As a teen, she won a local radio contest, and as her confidence grew, so did her fame. From a folk festival to Carnegie Hall and the Sistine Chapel, Mercedes performed the world over, sharing stories through song. But not everyone loved her singing: a military dictatorship ruled over Argentina, and they saw the power of her voice. Even from exile, Mercedes Sosa was a beacon of freedom for her people, and when she returned to her homeland, she persisted in her work: to be the voice of the voiceless.

Disponible en español como *Cantora*

Knopf Books for Young Readers



Carmela Full of Wishes

Author: Matt de la Peña

Illustrator: Christian Robinson

When Carmela wakes up on her birthday, her wish has already come true—she's finally old enough to join her big brother as he does the family errands. Together, they travel through their neighborhood, past the crowded bus stop, the fenced-off repair shop, and the panadería, until they arrive at the Laundromat, where Carmela finds a lone dandelion growing in the pavement. But before she can blow its white fluff away, her brother tells her she has to make a wish. If only she can think of just the right wish to make...

Disponible en español como *Los deseos de Carmela*

G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers

A Crown for Corina

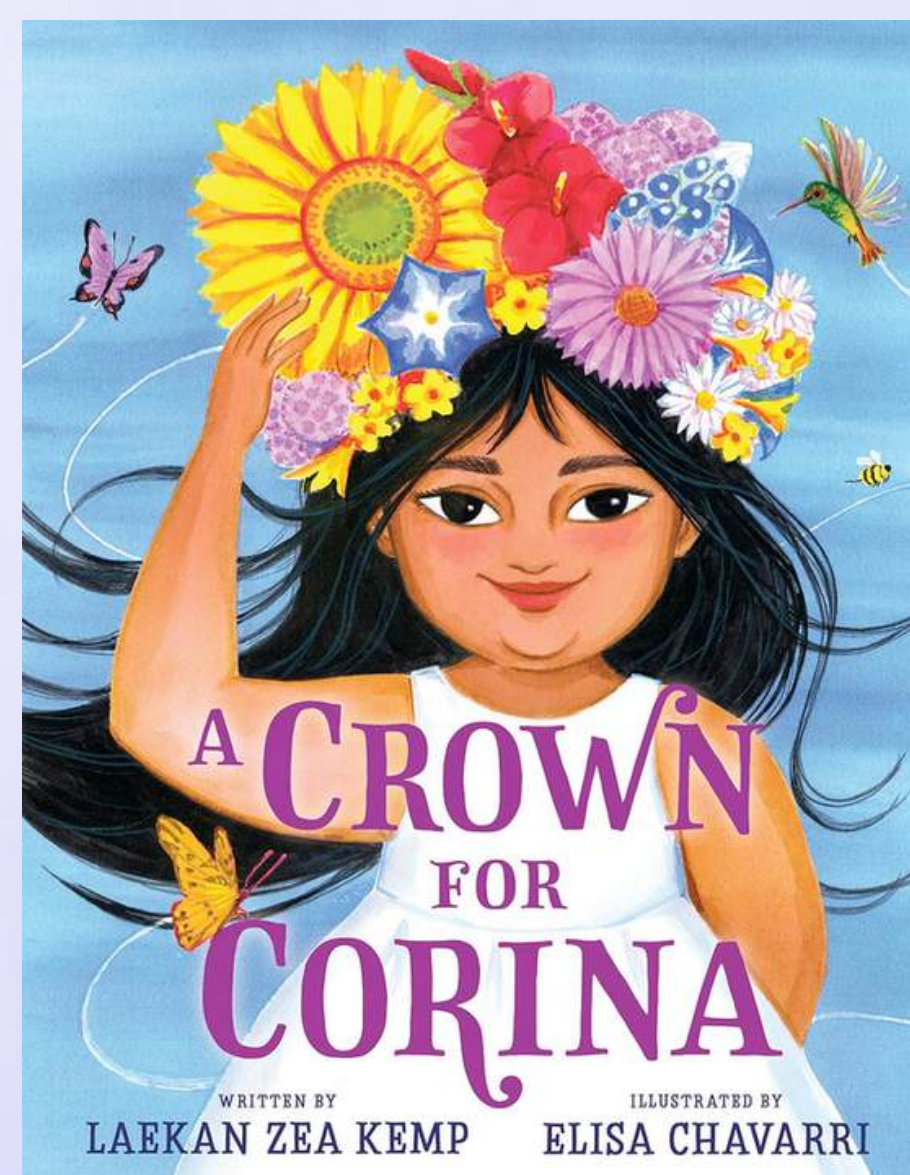
Author: Laekan Zea Kemp |

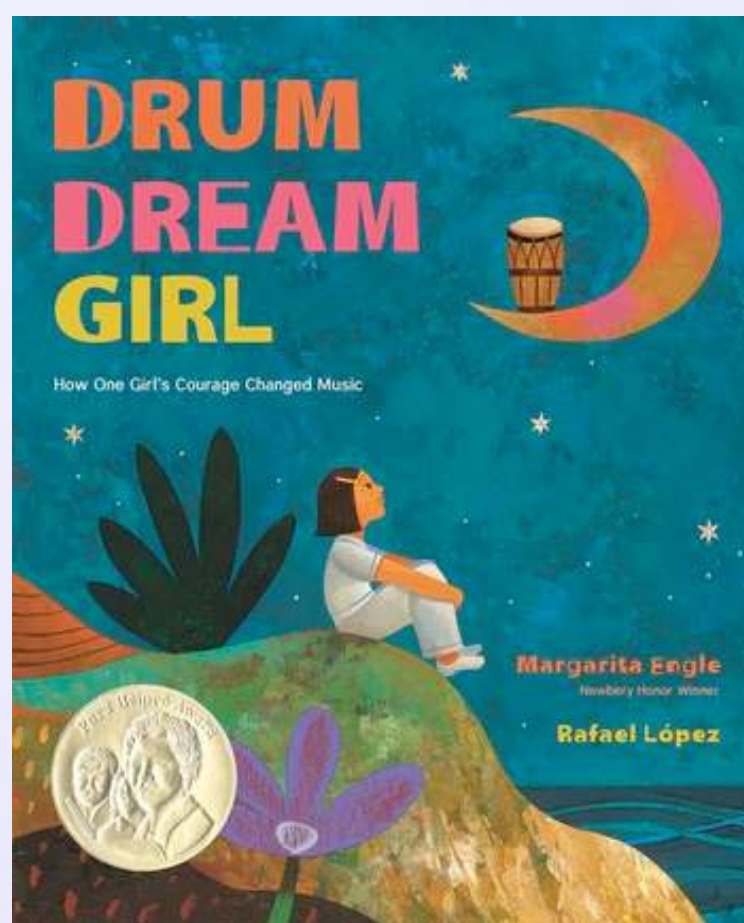
Illustrator: Elisa Chavarri

Today is Corina's birthday, and she's excited to wear the biggest crown with the most beautiful flowers picked from her abuela's garden. Each flower tells a special story about all the ways Corina is rooted in the family she loves.

Disponible en español como *Una corona para Corina*

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers





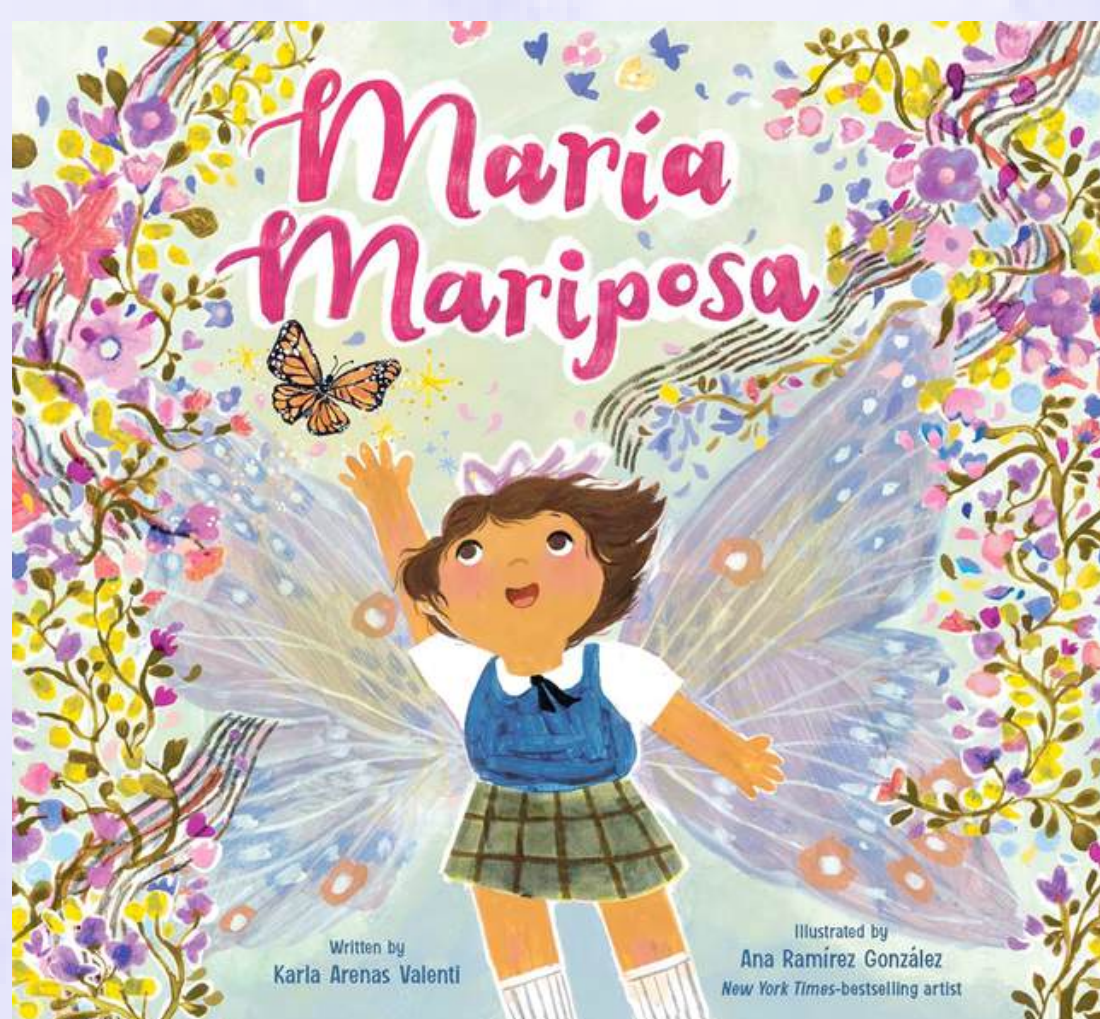
Drum Dream Girl

Author: Margarita Engle | Illustrator: Rafael López

Girls cannot be drummers. Long ago on an island filled with music, no one questioned that rule—until the drum dream girl. In her city of drumbeats, she dreamed of pounding tall congas and tapping small bongós. She had to keep quiet. She had to practice in secret. But when at last her dream-bright music was heard, everyone sang and danced and decided that both girls and boys should be free to drum and dream. Inspired by the childhood of Millo Castro Zaldarriaga, a Chinese-African-Cuban girl who broke Cuba's traditional taboo against female drummers, Drum Dream Girl tells an inspiring true story for dreamers everywhere.

Disponible en español como *La niña que soñaba con tambores*

Harper Collins



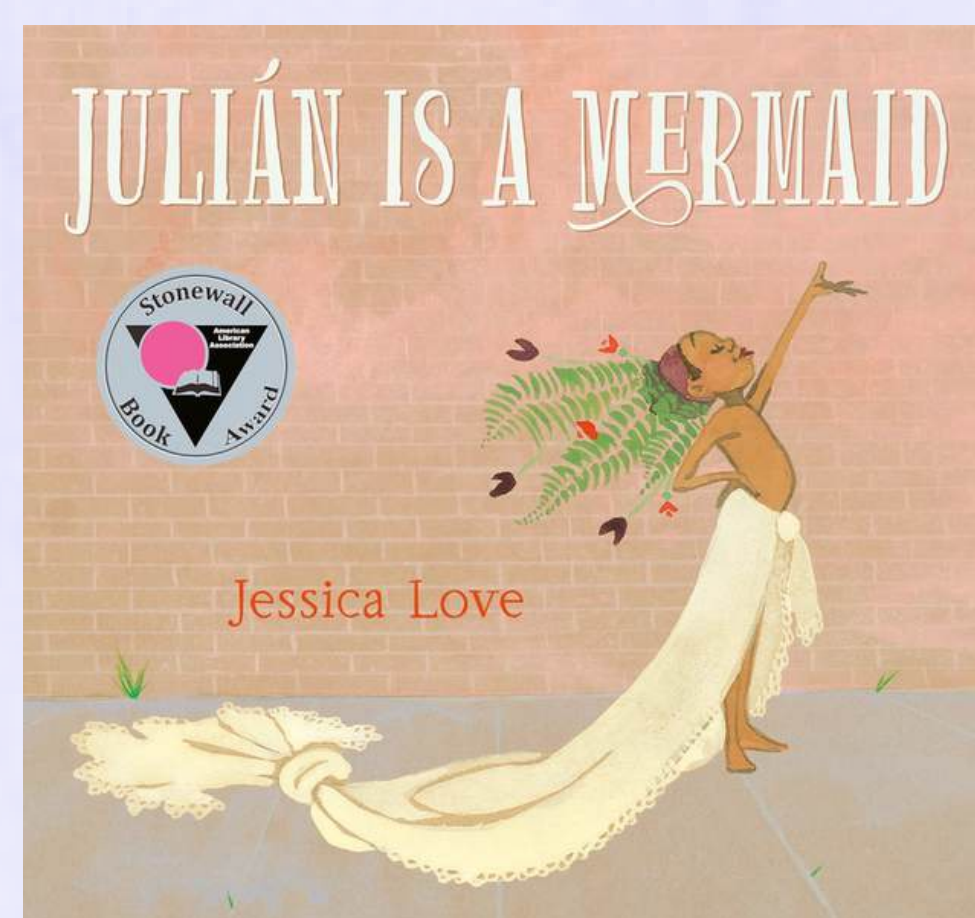
Maria Mariposa

Author: Karla Arenas Valenti

Illustrator: Ana Ramírez González

A gift from Mexico alights on María Mariposa's windowsill on her first day of school in a brand-new country: "¡Una mariposa!" / "A butterfly!" And with the butterfly, in comes magic. Filled from her toes to her new butterfly wings with memories of home, María knows exactly who she is. But when everything at school is different and strange, doubt begins to make María's confidence fade away. The place she comes from, the community she loves, the magic inside her ... does any of it really belong in her new life?

Chronicle Books



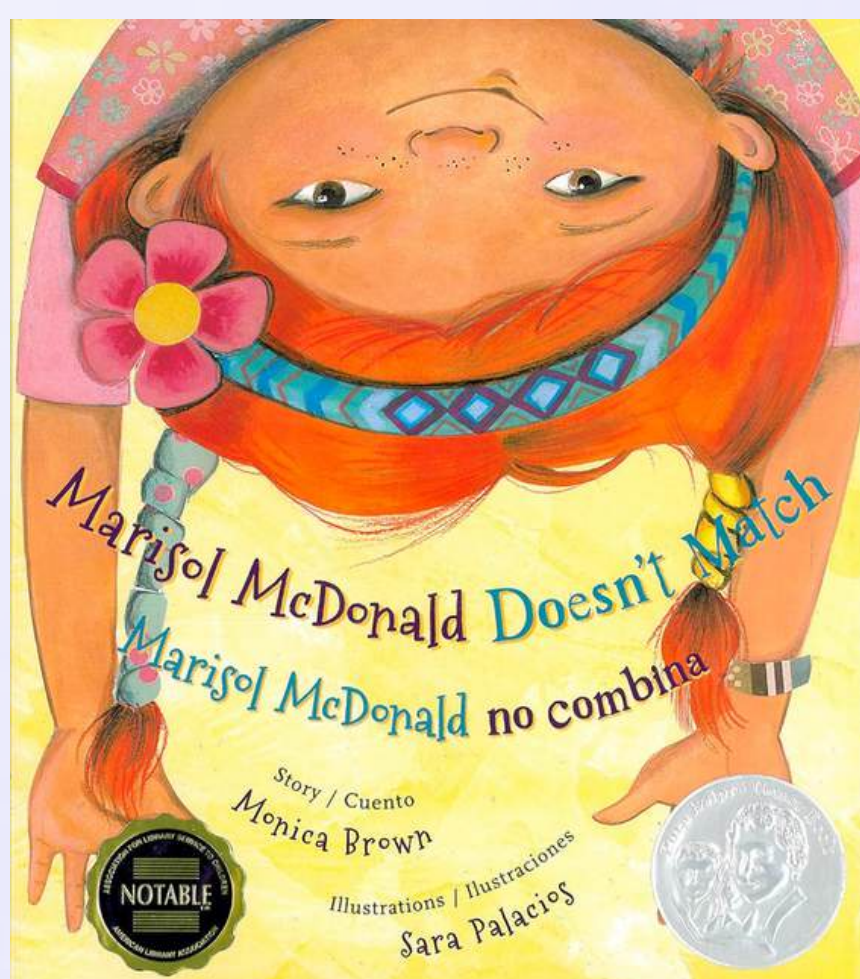
Julián is a Mermaid

Author & Illustrator: Jessica Love

While riding the subway home from the pool with his abuela one day, Julián notices three women spectacularly dressed up. Their hair billows in brilliant hues, their dresses end in fishtails, and their joy fills the train car. When Julián gets home, daydreaming of the magic he's seen, all he can think about is dressing up just like the ladies in his own fabulous mermaid costume: a butter-yellow curtain for his tail, the fronds of a potted fern for his headdress. But what will Abuela think about the mess he makes — and even more importantly, what will she think about how Julián sees himself?

Disponible en español como *Julián es una sirena*

Candlewick



Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match

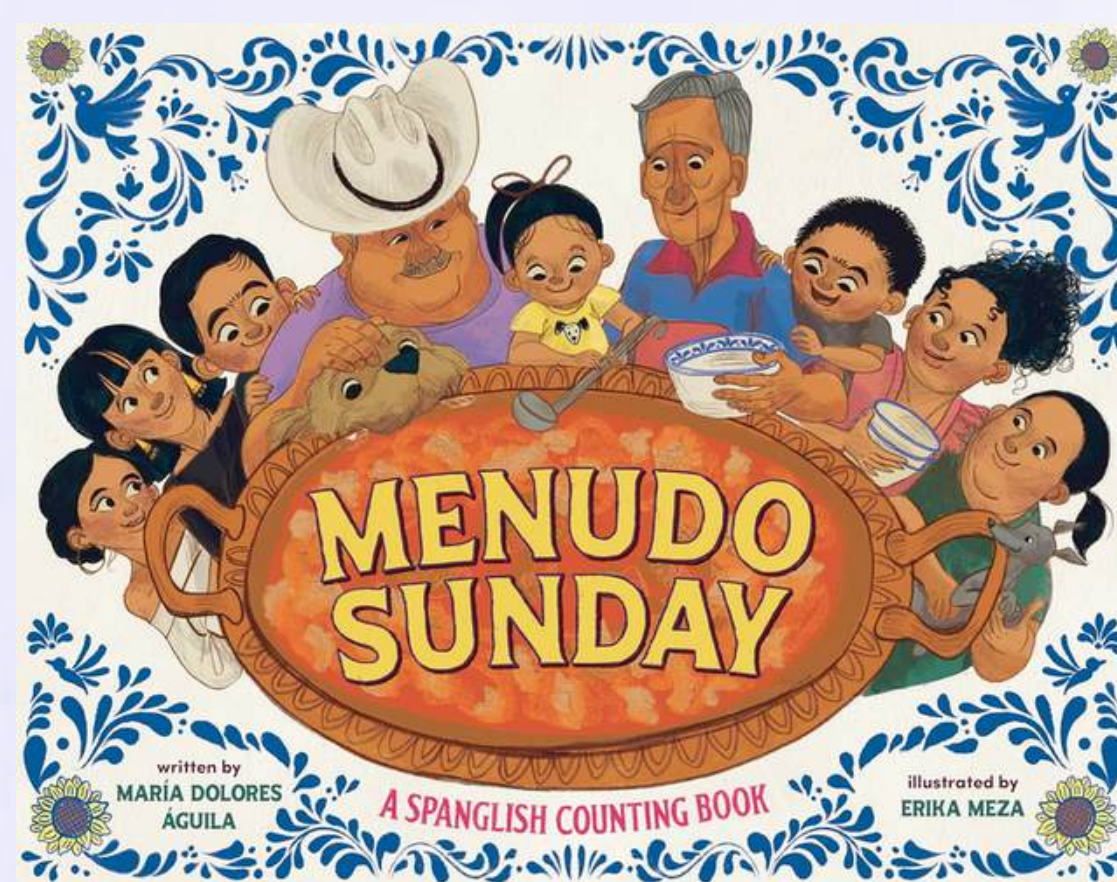
Author: Monica Brown

Illustrator: Sara Palacios

Marisol McDonald has flaming red hair and nut-brown skin. Polka dots and stripes are her favorite combination. She prefers peanut butter and jelly burritos in her lunch box. To Marisol, these seemingly mismatched things make perfect sense together. Other people wrinkle their nose in confusion at Marisol-can't she just choose one or the other? Try as she might, in a world where everyone tries to put this biracial, Peruvian-Scottish-American girl into a box, Marisol McDonald doesn't match. And that's just fine with her.

Disponible en español como *Marisol McDonald no combina*

Lee & Low Books



Menudo Sunday: A Spanglish Counting Book

Author: María Dolores Águila

Illustrator: Erika Meza

Sundays are the best: that's when a little girl and her mamá, abuelitos, tías and primos all gather together to eat yummy menudo, a traditional Mexican soup. But when playtime with the cousins and family dogs gets out of hand and Abuelito Esteban's special bowl of menudo breaks, everyone has to pitch in to make a new batch! Through all the menudo mishaps and sneaky snacks for perritos with wagging tails, young readers will giggle as they learn to count from 1-15 in Spanish and English. Bonus materials at the back of the book include a glossary of Spanish words, a note from the author, and tips for hosting your very own Menudo Sunday!

Dial Books

Martina Has Too Many Tías

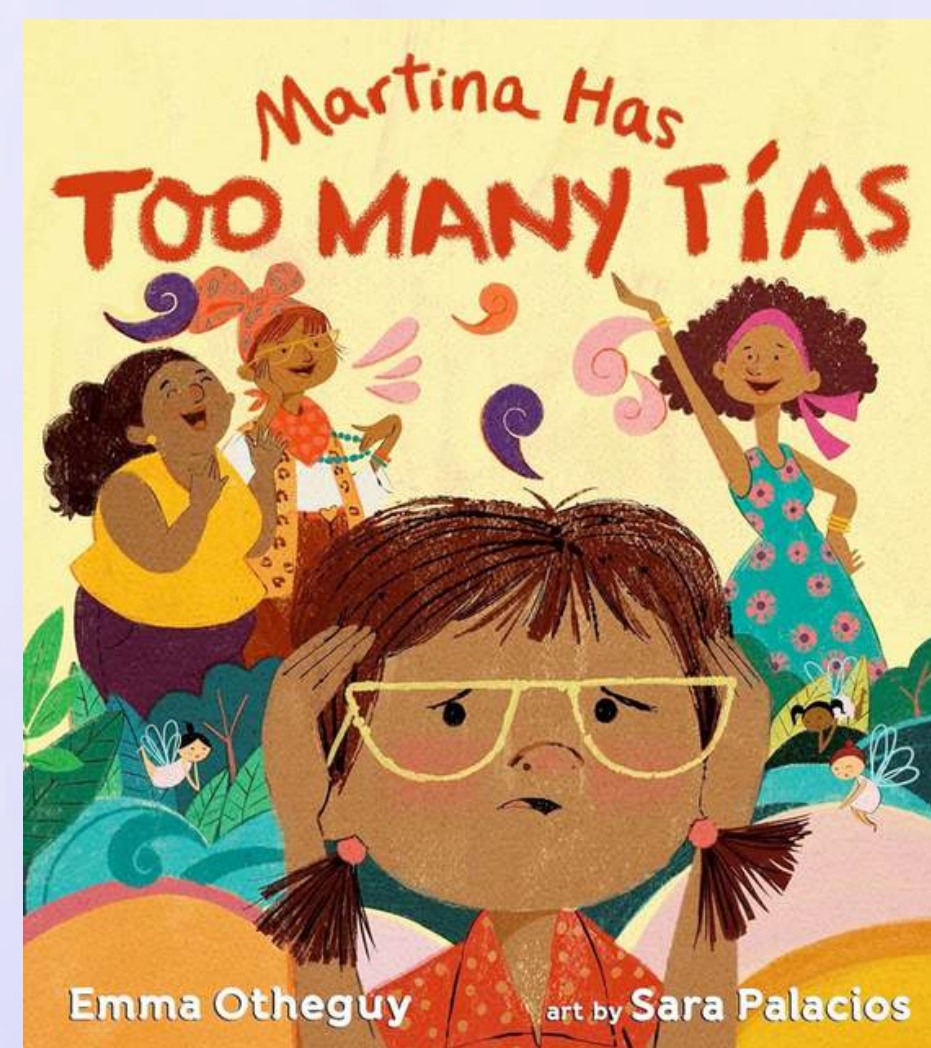
Author: Emma Otheguy

Illustrator: Sara Palacios

Martina does not like parties. Parties are full of tías with their flashy fashions and boom-and-bellow laughter that's too much for quiet Martina. At least with all that noise, no one notices when she slips away. She finds herself in a magical place: a warm, familiar island where she can finally play in peace and quiet. Martina is home at last—or is she?

Disponible en español como *Martina tiene muchas tías*

Atheneum Books for Young Readers



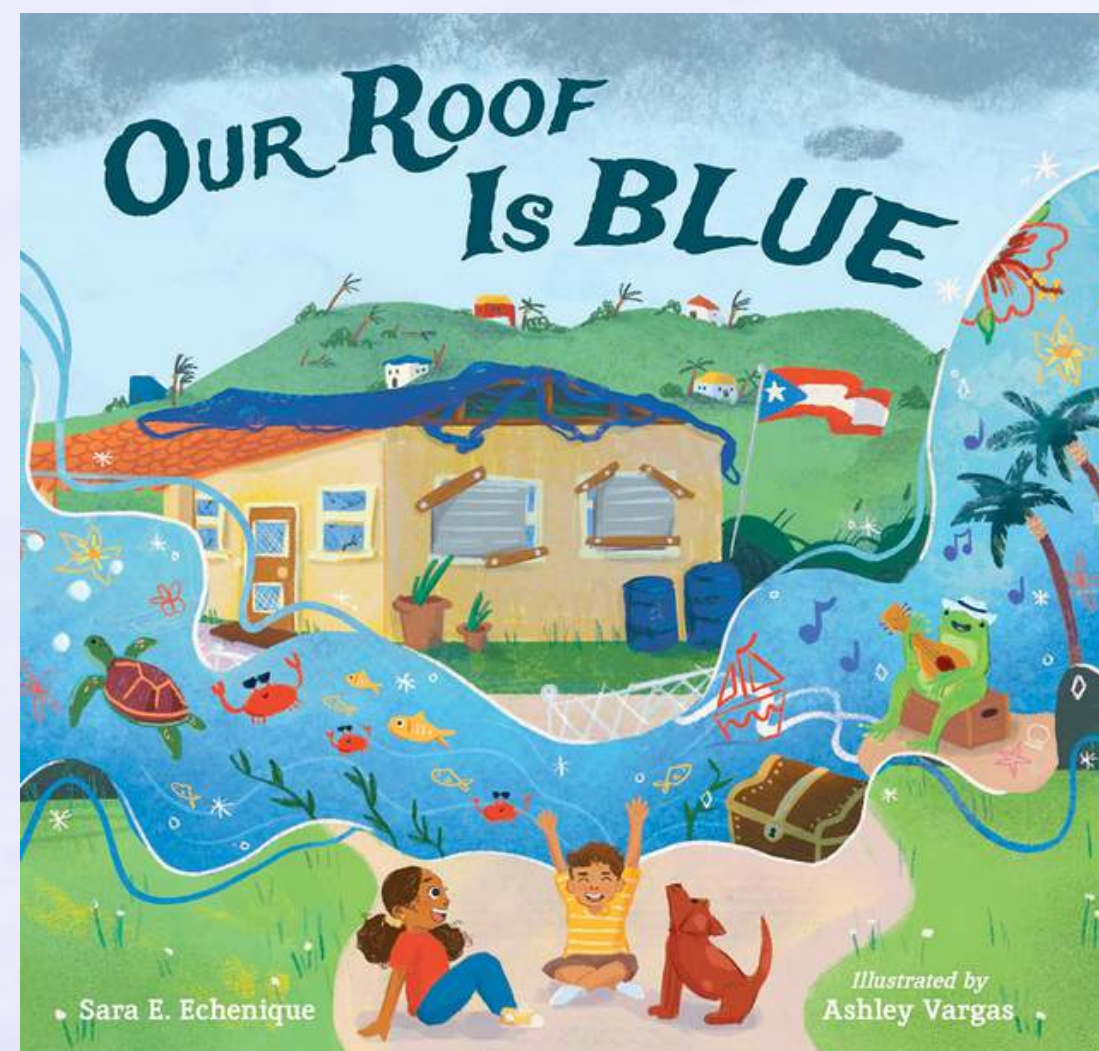
Our Roof is Blue

Author: Sara E. Echenique | Illustrator: Ashley Vargas

Before an intense hurricane hits their home in Puerto Rico, Antonio told his sister vibrant stories each night. During the storm, they huddled with their parents in a closet and hear the storm blow the roof right off their home. After the storm, their family uses a temporary blue tarp for a roof, and Antonio stops speaking. Gradually the siblings imagine their blue roof playfully—as the ocean above them or a parachute helping them fall from the sky. As the narrator helps her little brother feel safe once more—and after the family and community build a new roof—the little boy begins to speak again.

Disponible en español como *Nuestro techo es azul*

Charlesbridge



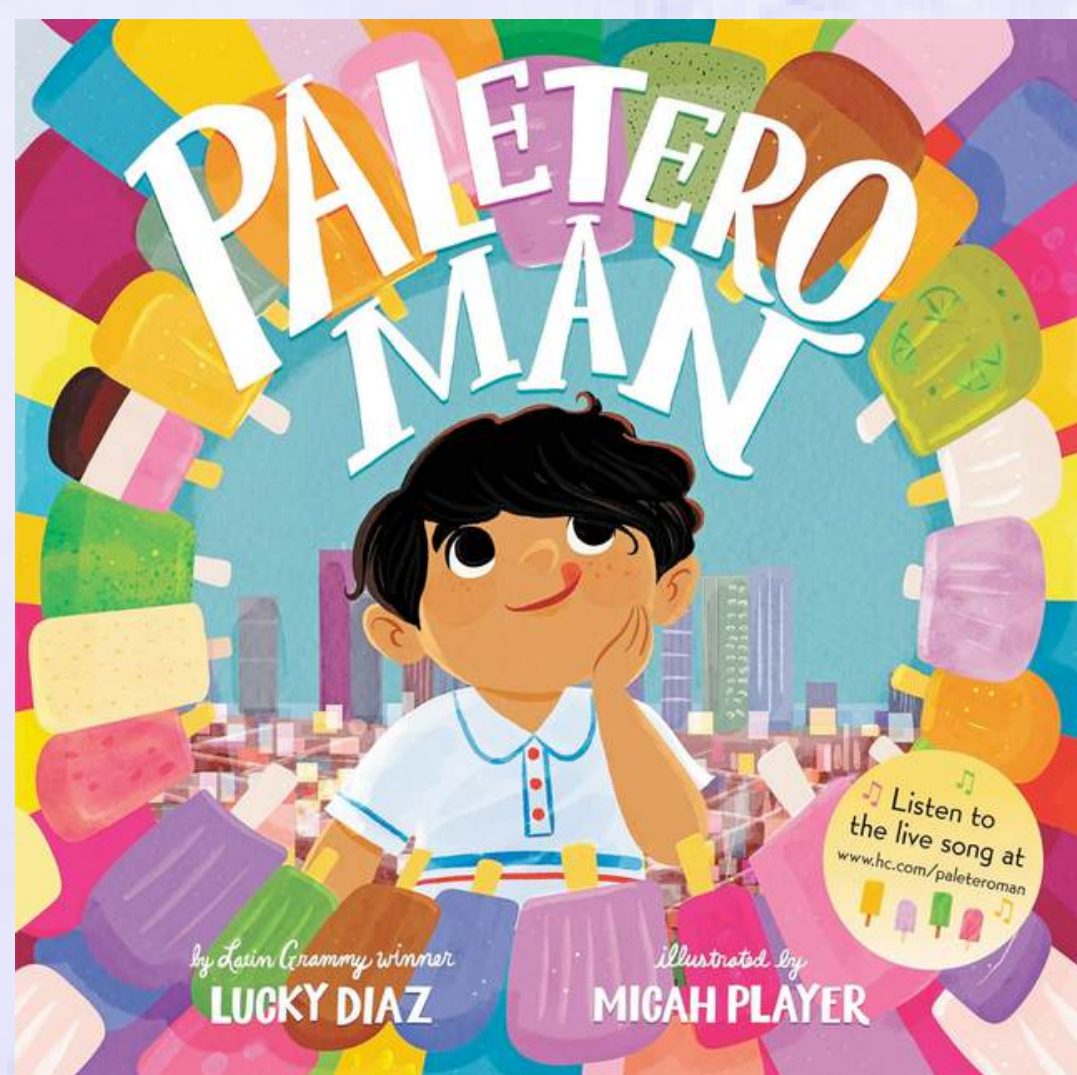
Paletero Man

Author: Lucky Diaz | Illustrator: Micah Player

What's the best way to cool off on a hot summer day? Run quick and find Paletero José! Follow along with our narrator as he passes through his busy neighborhood in search of the Paletero Man. But when he finally catches up with him, our narrator's pockets are empty. Oh no! What happened to his dinero? It will take the help of the entire community to get the tasty treat now.

Disponible en español como *Paletero Man/¡Que paletero tan cool!*

HarperCollins



The Piñata That the Farm Maiden Hung

Author: Samantha R. Vamos

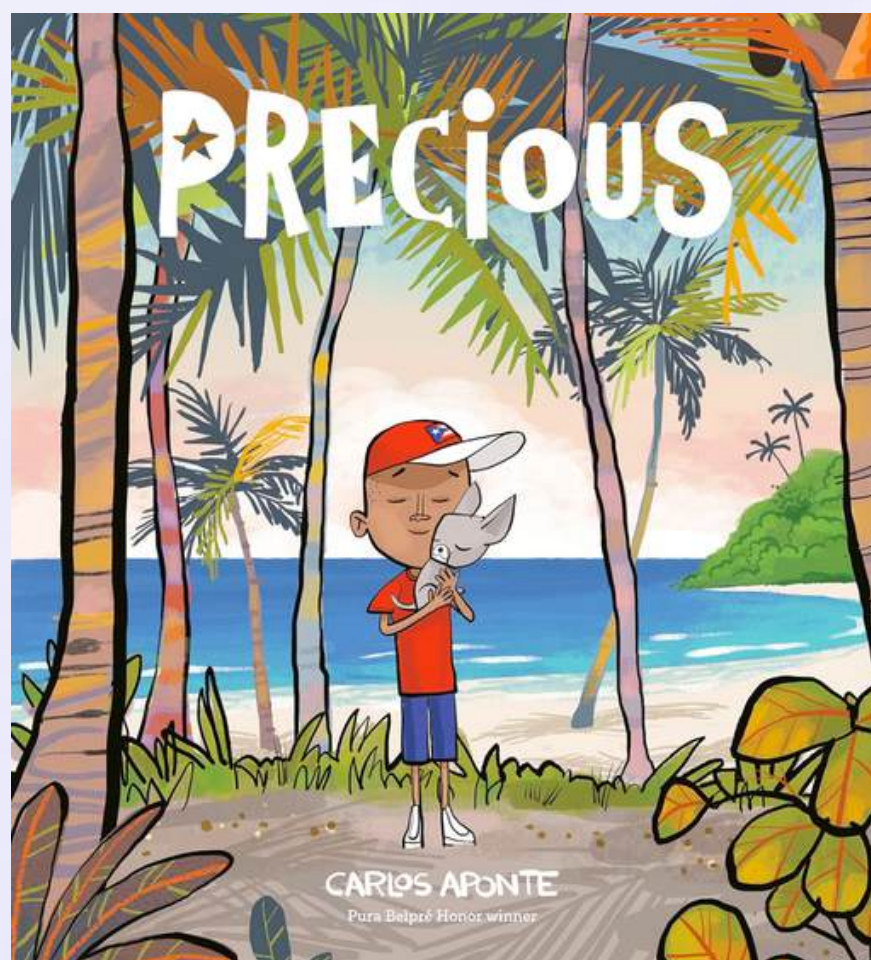
Illustrator: Sebastà Serra

A young girl sets out on errands for the day, and while she's gone, the farm maiden prepares a piñata from scratch with help from a boy, horse, goose, cat, sheep, and farmer. After they all fall asleep in the afternoon sun, they must scramble to finish preparations in time—just as the girl arrives back to her surprise party. Key English words change to Spanish as the cumulative verse builds to the celebratory ending.

Disponible en español como *La piñata que la campesina colgó*

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers





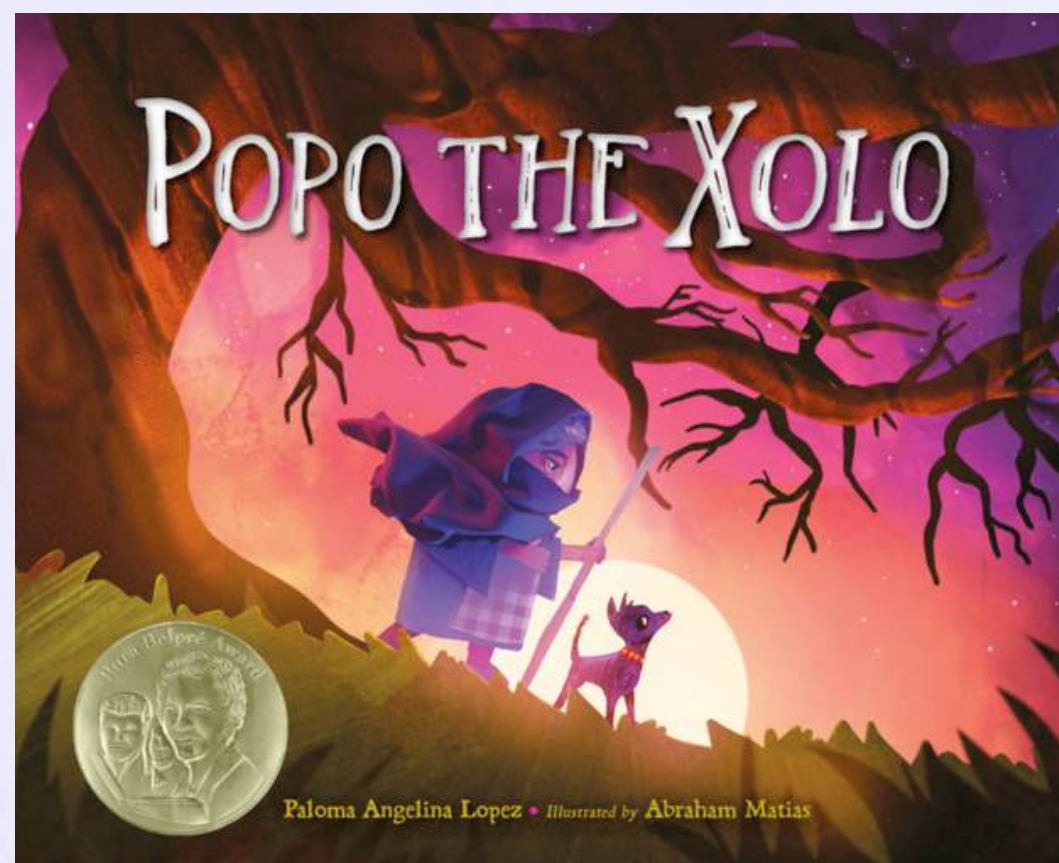
Precious

Author & Illustrator:
Carlos Aponte

Sometimes hearing a song gives you all the courage you need for a day. That's what happens to Pedrito after a hurricane howls through his neighborhood and he has to give up his rescue dog. The moment his big brother starts strumming "Preciosa," a beautiful song about his beautiful island, Pedrito knows that somehow everything will be okay...

Disponible en español como
Preciosa

Nancy Paulsen Books



Popo the Xolo

Author: Paloma Angelina Lopez
Illustrator: Abraham Matias

Nana is surrounded by family and takes joy in her many grandchildren. She's also tired and feels pain. Soon she begins her transition from life into death, accompanied by her beloved Xolo dog, Popo. Together they go on Nana's journey, and by the end of the story, Nana's family celebrates the many years of love they shared with her. And a grandchild will now care for Popo. Popo the Xolo helps kids understand how loved ones live on in our memories. An unforgettable picture book that's grounded in the importance of the 9 levels of Mictlān and the role Xolo (show-low) dogs play in Indigenous cultural understandings of present-day Mexico.

Disponible en español como *Popo el Xolo*

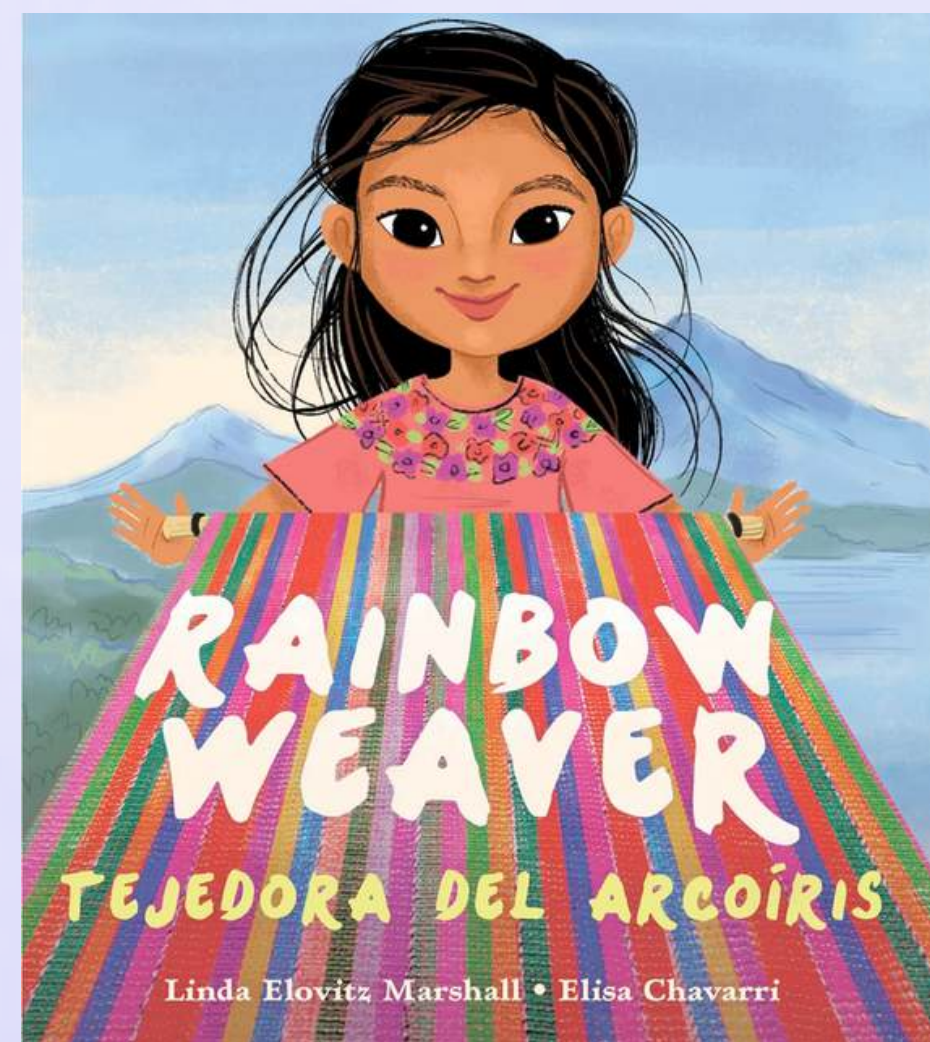
Charlesbridge

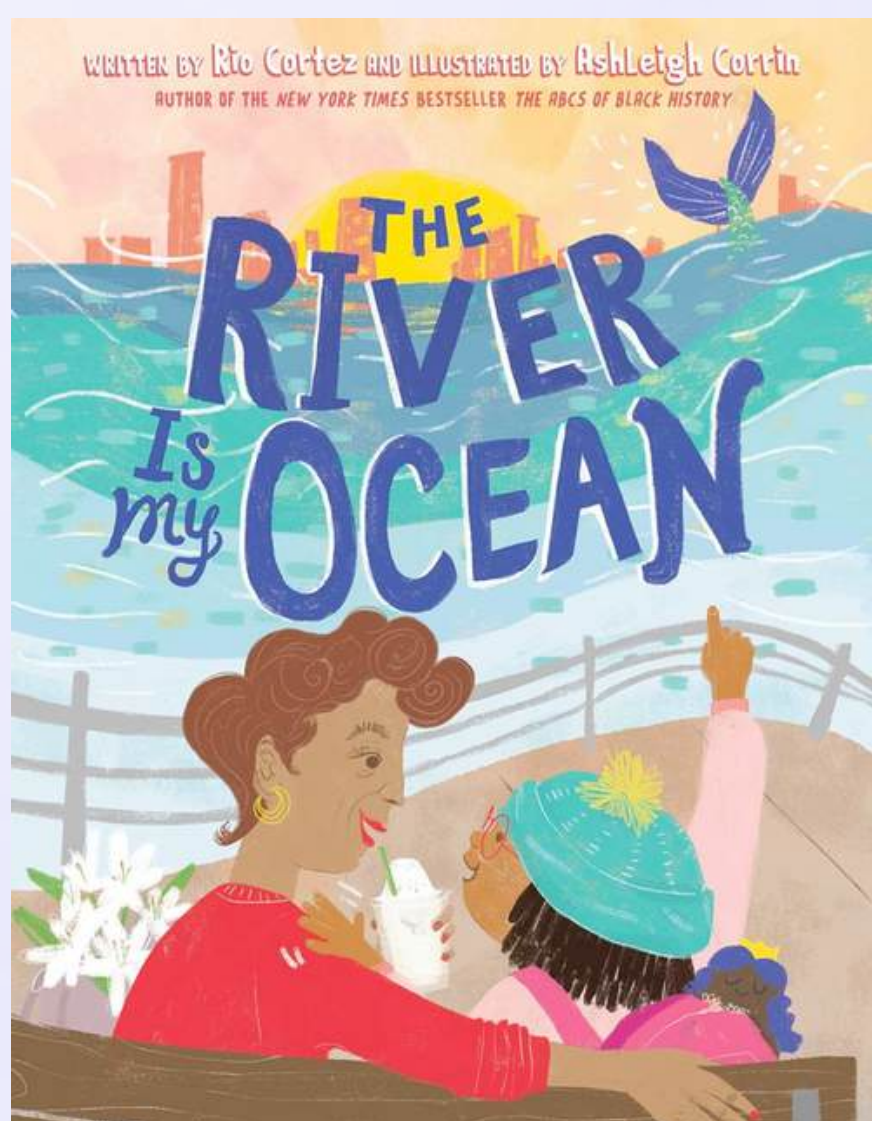
Rainbow Weaver / Tejedora del arcoíris

Author: Linda Elovitz Marshall | Illustrator: Elisa Chavarri

Ixchel wants to follow in the long tradition of weaving on backstrap looms, just as her mother, grandmother, and most Mayan women have done for more than two thousand years. But Ixchel's mother is too busy preparing her weavings for market. And besides, there is not enough extra thread for Ixchel to practice with. Disappointed, Ixchel first tries weaving with blades of grass, and then with bits of wool, but no one would want to buy the results. As she walks around her village, Ixchel finds it littered with colorful plastic bags... Suddenly, Ixchel has an idea! She collects and washes the plastic bags. Then she cuts each bag into thin strips. Sitting at her loom, Ixchel weaves the plastic strips into a colorful fabric that looks like a beautiful rainbow—just like the weavings of Mayan women before her.

Lee & Low Books





The River is My Ocean

Author: Rio Cortez

Illustrator: Ashleigh Corrin

Every day, Abuela misses the ocean in Puerto Rico. But on Saturdays, when the sun is high, Abuela takes her granddaughter on a walk down the hill in Harlem to Twelfth Avenue, to a place that is just as magical: the Hudson River. There, they admire the iconic waterway that brought millions of new Americans to its shores, make offerings to Yemaya, the goddess portrayed as a mermaid in ancient religions, and celebrate familial love passed down through the generations, showing the vastness of expansive intergenerational love, memory and the childlike curiosity they each inspire.

Disponible en español como *El río es mi mar*

Denene Millner Books/Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

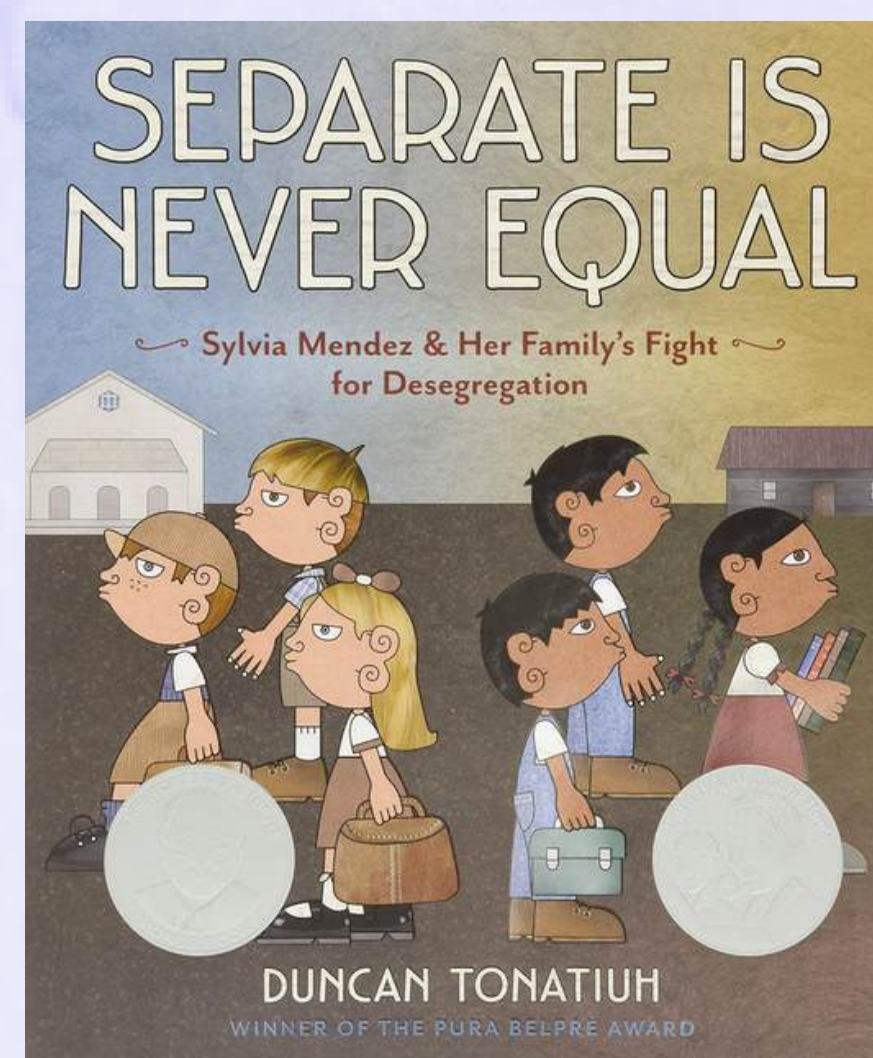
Separate is Never Equal

Author & Illustrator: Duncan Tonatiuh

When her family moved to the town of Westminster, California, young Sylvia Mendez was excited about enrolling in her neighborhood school. But she and her brothers were turned away and told they had to attend the Mexican school instead. Sylvia could not understand why—she was an American citizen who spoke perfect English. Why were the children of Mexican families forced to attend a separate school? Unable to get a satisfactory answer from the school board, the Mendez family decided to take matters into its own hands and organized a lawsuit. In the end, the Mendez family's efforts helped bring an end to segregated schooling in California in 1947, seven years before the landmark Supreme Court ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education* ended segregation in schools across America.

Disponible en español como *Separados no son iguales*

Harry N. Abrams



Still Dreaming

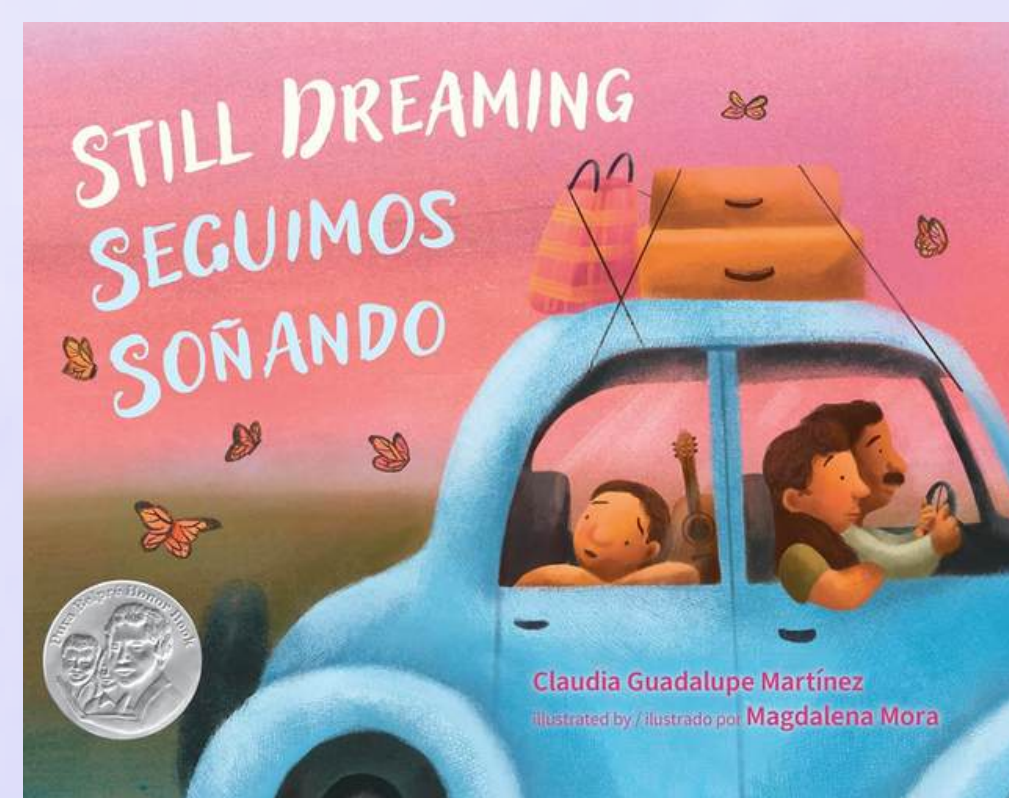
Author: Claudia Guadalupe Martínez

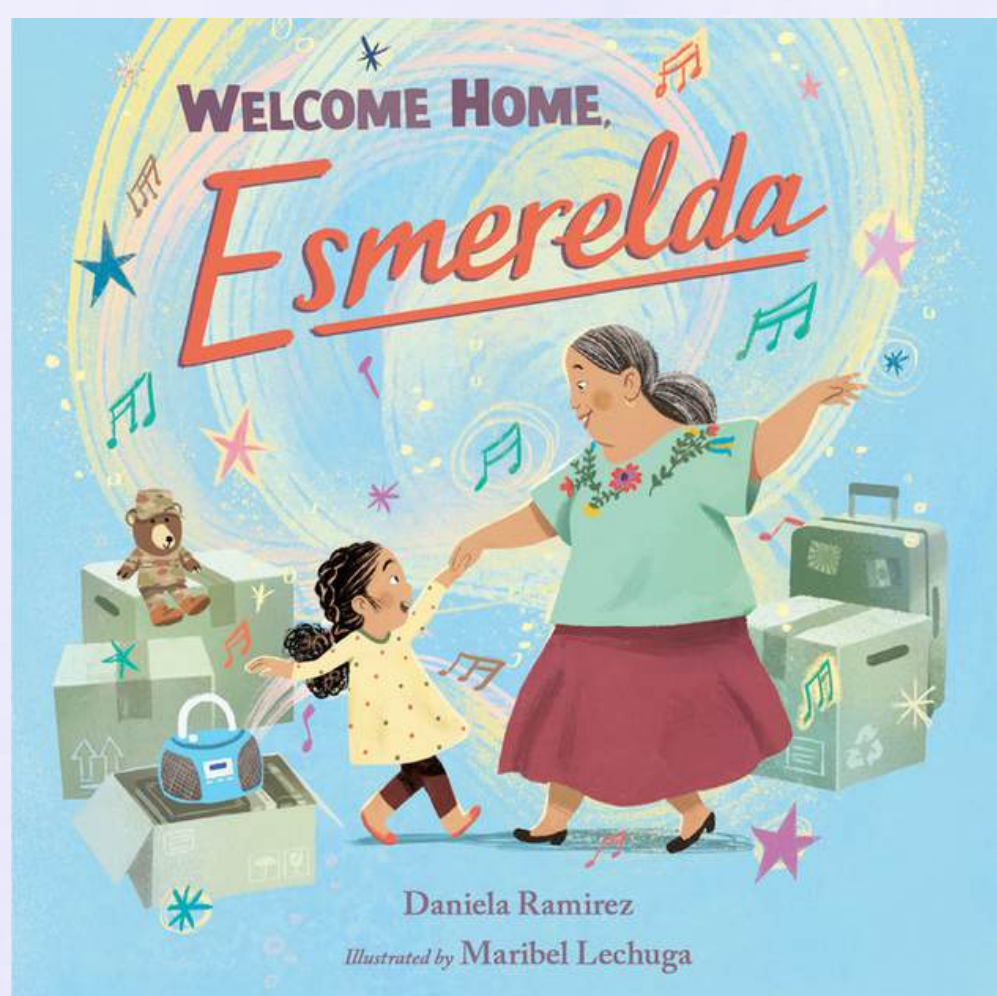
Illustrator: Magdalena Mora

Faced with the prospect of being separated from each other, a young boy and his family make the difficult decision to leave their home and begin a journey filled with uncertainty. On the road, they meet other people like them. Families with deep roots tied to the land. Others that helped build the railroads. Some were shop owners and factory workers. Each with similar hopes and dreams.

Disponible en español como *Seguimos soñando*

Lee & Low Books





Welcome Home, Esmerelda

Author: Daniela Ramirez

Illustrator: Maribel Lechuga

Papa's job in the military has taken Esmerelda and her family all over the world—and yet she's never lived in the United States. Now she and her family are moving to San Antonio, Texas. Although many of her extended family members live there, Esmerelda is unsure it'll feel like home. Even more, she's unsure she will fit in. Gradually, music and her sweet abuela spark bravery and the realization that home is not always a place—it's familia.

Disponible en español como *Bienvenido a casa, Esmerelda*

Charlesbridge

Yefferson, Actually

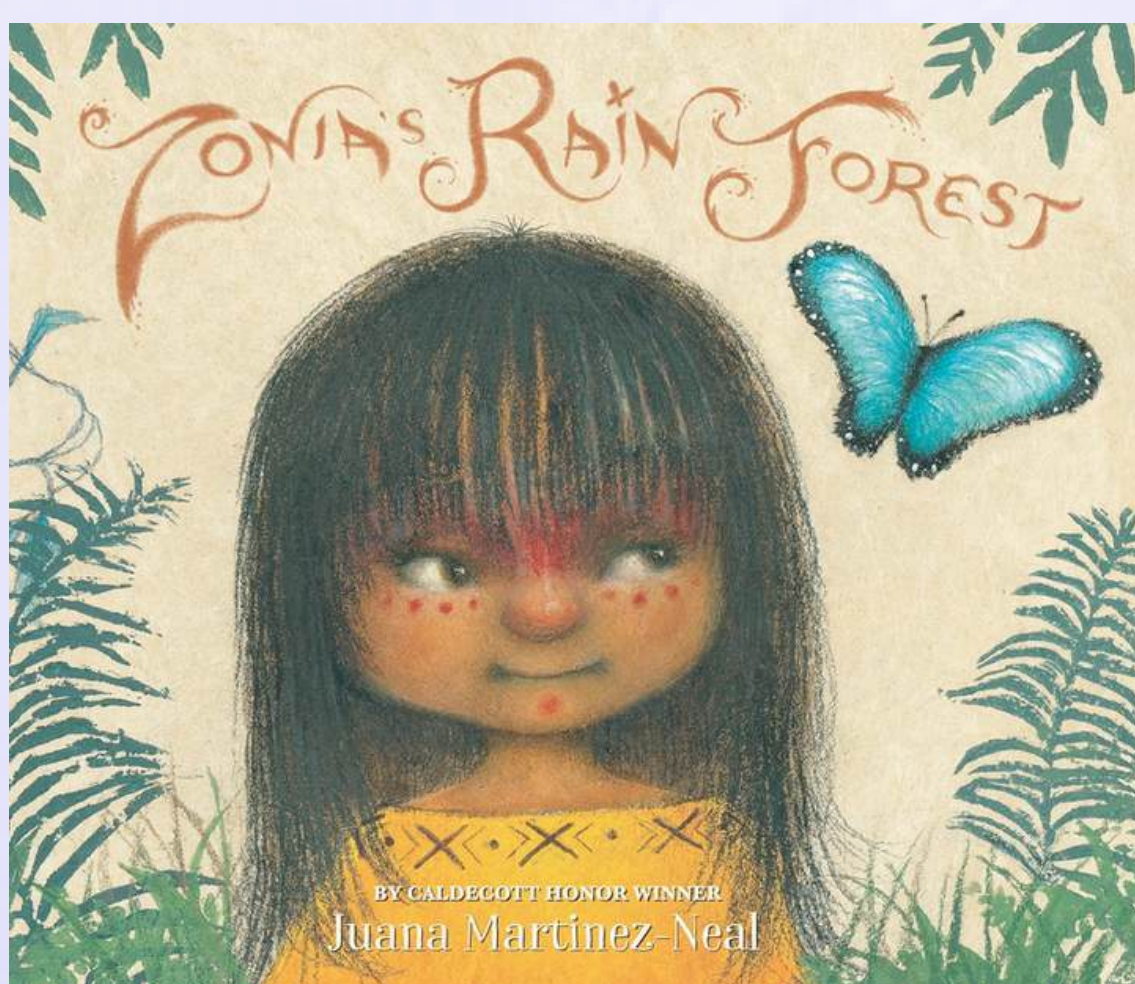
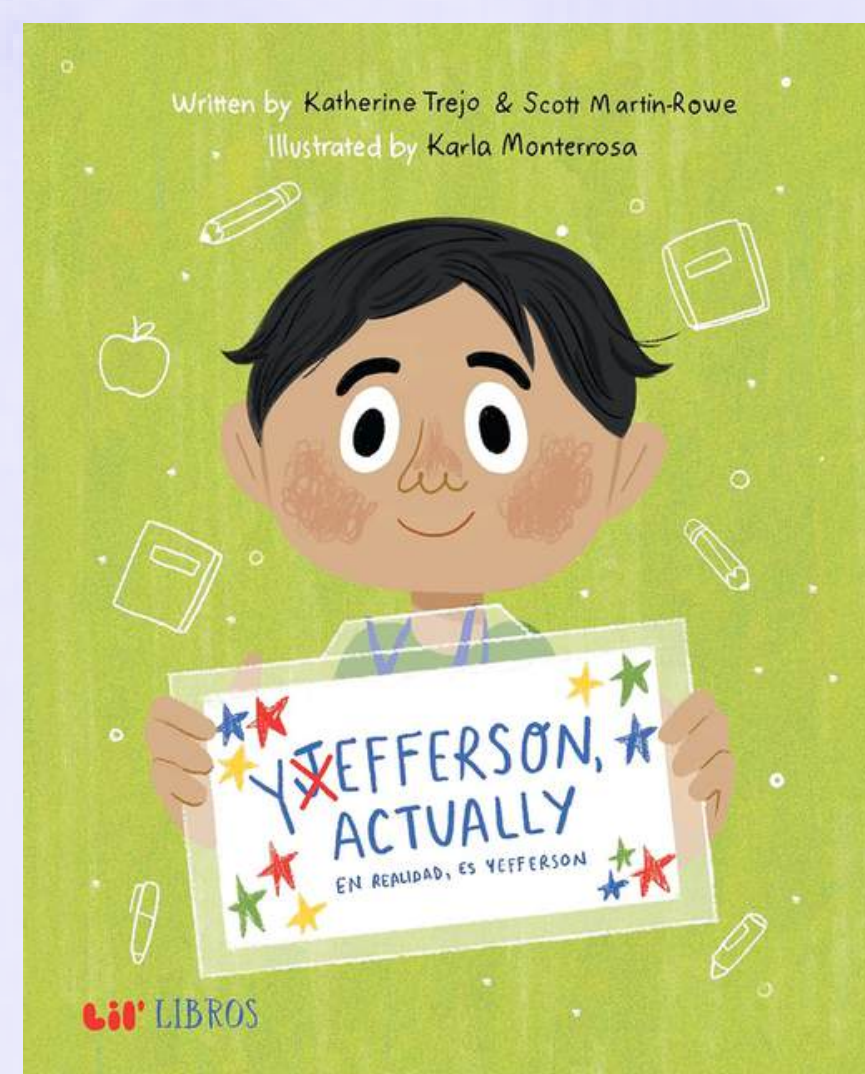
Authors: Katherine Trejo & Scott Martin-Rowe

Illustrator: Karla Monterrosa

On his first day as the new kid in school, shy Yefferson's name is consistently mispronounced to his discomfort and embarrassment. With his family's support, Yefferson finds the courage to stand up for himself and his namesake.

Disponible en español como *En realidad, es Yefferson*

Lil' Libros



Zonia's Rain Forest

Author & Illustrator: Juana Martínez-Neal

Zonia's home is the Amazon rain forest, where it is always green and full of life. Every morning, the rain forest calls to Zonia, and every morning she answers. She visits the sloth family, greets the giant anteater, and runs with the speedy jaguar. But one morning, the rain forest calls to her in a troubled voice. How will Zonia answer?

Disponible en español como *La selva de Zonia*

Candlewick