

Children's Day/Books Day El día de los niños/El día de los libros

April 30, 2010

Recommended Reading List

Presented by:

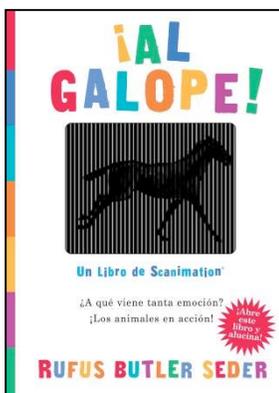
The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) - a division of the American Library Association (ALA),
REFORMA, the national association to promote library and information services to Latinos and the Spanish-speaking
and the Association of American Publishers' Publishing Latino Voices for America (PLVA) Task Force



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS, INC.

***Note:** The following is just a sampling of the wide variety of titles by or for Latinos offered by AAP member publishers. This recommended reading list is not meant to be comprehensive of all the wonderful works that celebrate the Latino and Spanish-speaking community.

Children's



Al Galope!

Rufus Butler Seder
Workman Publishing (August 2009)
ISBN: [9780761154150](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/9780761154150)
Languages Available: Spanish
Ages: 4-8

¡Fantastico! What a treat: *Gallop!* in Spanish. For the millions of Hispanic children in the United States (Spanish is the primary language at home for 34 million Americans), and for the millions more children whose parents would like them to learn Spanish as a second language, comes the #1 *New York Times* bestseller, translated as *¡Al Galope!*

With *¡Al Galope!*, *Gallop!* Joins other classic children's authors and books such as Dr. Seuss (*Huevos verdes con jamón*), Maurice Sendak (*Donde viven los monstruos*), Margaret Wise Brown (*Buenas noches, luna*), H.A. Rey (*Jorge el Curioso*), and Judith Viorst (*Alexander y el día terrible, horrible, espantoso, horroroso*). *¡Al Galope!* captures the pure, universal visual fun of watching animals come to life, with the most energetic, sing-song text:

¿Puedes galopar como un caballo? ¡Cloc-cloc-cloc! ¿Puedes correr como un perro? ¡Guau-guau-guau!

Whether they speak Spanish fluently or are wanting to learn it, kids will love hearing and repeating the words as the animals swim, fly, leap, swing, gallop, and flutter across the page.

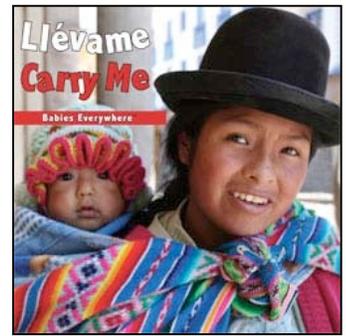
Carry Me/Llévame

Star Bright Books (September 2009)

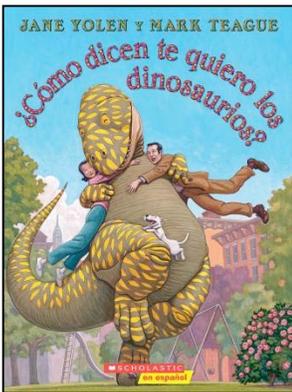
ISBN: [978-1-59572-199-0](#) (Spanish/English Bilingual edition)

Languages Available: English, Spanish/English Bilingual, Portuguese/English Bilingual

Ages: 0-2



Whether tucked in a blanket, peeking out of a basket, or wrapped in a parent's arms, babies worldwide are carried in unique ways. The simple, rhyming text and beautiful photographs in this board book introduce children to the way their global neighbors travel.



¿Cómo dicen te quiero los dinosaurios? (How Do Dinosaurs Say I Love You?)

Jane Yolen

Illustrated by Mark Teague

Scholastic (October 2009)

ISBN: [978-0-545-15407-9](#)

Languages Available: English and Spanish

Ages: 1-6

America's favorite dinosaurs offer families a colorful picture book that's perfect for bedtime, storytime, anytime. Even when little dinosaurs are naughty, it's important to remind them that no matter what they do, they are always loved. In this book, cuddly ceratopsians and adorable ammosuaruses learn to say "I love you" on every page. Readers will laugh aloud as parents cope with the typical antics of childhood, but in the end, hugs and kisses show your little one how much you care.

Dora and the Birthday Wish Adventure

Adapted by Emily Sollinger

Illustrated by Robert Roper

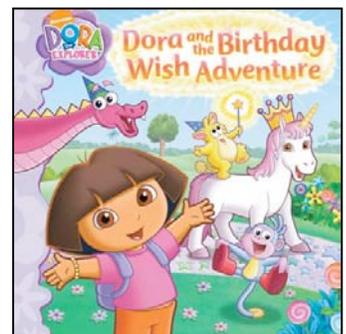
Simon Spotlight/Nickelodeon (May 2010)

ISBN (English): [9781416999300](#)

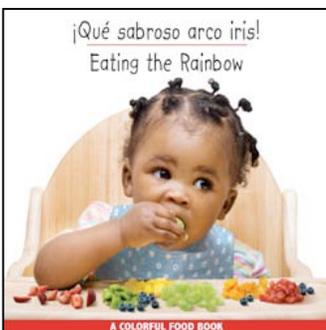
ISBN (Spanish): [9781442402867](#)

Languages Available: English and Spanish

Ages: 3-7



Dora and Boots are off on an adventure in Wizzle Kingdom to help the Birthday Wizzle make birthday wishes come true.



Eating the Rainbow/¿Qué Sabroso Arco Iris!

Star Bright Books (September 2009)

ISBN: [978-1-59572-203-4](#) (Spanish/English Bilingual edition)

Languages Available: English, Spanish/English Bilingual, Portuguese/English Bilingual

Ages: 0-2

Children will learn the names and colors of healthy, delectable food from the large, bright photographs in this board book. It's nutritious and educational!

Families/Las Familias

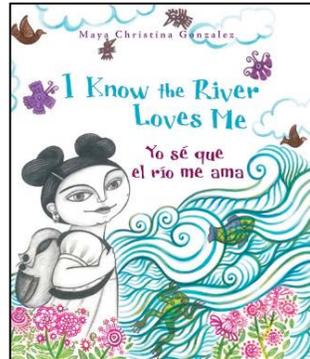
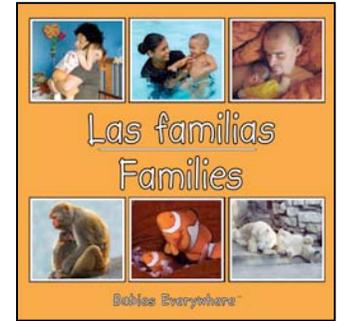
Star Bright Books (September 2009)

ISBN: [978-1-59572-201-0](#) (Spanish/English Bilingual edition)

Languages Available: English, Spanish/English Bilingual, Portuguese/English Bilingual

Ages: 0-2

Humans and animals care for their young in many ways. They share food, go swimming, cuddle, and of course, give plenty of hugs and kisses. Vibrant images of loving families make this the perfect book for families everywhere.



I Know the River Loves Me/ Yo sé que el río me ama

Maya Christina Gonzalez

Children's Book Press (September 2009)

ISBN: [978-0-89239-233-9](#)

Languages Available: Bilingual

Ages: 4-8

In this gentle story of love and respect for nature, young readers will be inspired by the joy and wonder of being outdoors, and learn powerful lessons about their environment and themselves.

Let Me Help!;/ Quiero ayudar!

Alma Flor Ada

Illustrated by Angela Domínguez

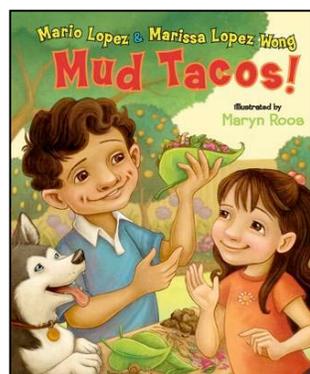
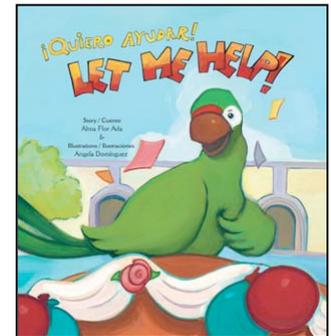
Children's Book Press (May 2010)

ISBN: [978-089239-232-2](#)

Languages Available: Bilingual

Ages: 4-8

When the whole family scrambles to prepare for Cinco de Mayo, Perico knows there must be some way he can help—even if he's just a parrot.



Mud Tacos

Mario Lopez & Marissa Lopez Wong

Illustrated by Maryn Roos

Penguin Group USA (October 15, 2009)

ISBN: [9780451227515](#)

Languages Available: English

Ages: 3-5

Marissa loves her big brother, Mario. He always comes up with fun ideas. When playing in their nana's backyard, they decide to make some wormy, squirmy mud tacos. That gives Mario an idea—how about some real tacos for lunch. Before long it is off to the store with Nana, but first they must pick up their cousins Rosie and Chico. When Chico starts acting like a hotshot to prove that he is a big kid, can his cousins, with the help of a few mud tacos, show him how to have some real fun?

Muu, Moo! Rimas de animals/Animal Nursery Rhymes

Alma Flor Ada

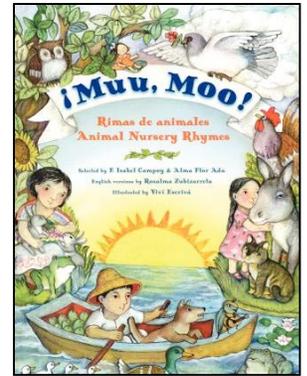
Illustrated by Angela Domínguez

HarperCollins Children's Books (March 1, 2010)

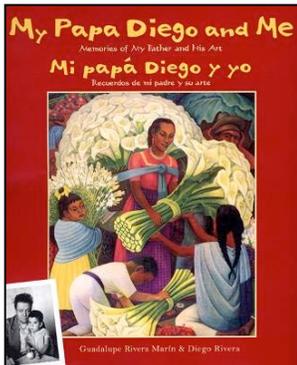
ISBN: [9780061346132](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/9780061346132)

Languages Available: Bilingual

Ages: 2-7



This heartwarming bilingual collection of traditional animal nursery rhymes from Spain, Latin America, and the United States will delight readers young and old. From the call of the rooster to the chirp, chirp of the cricket, these seventeen poems in both English and Spanish have been hand-picked by distinguished authors Alma Flor Ada and F. Isabel Campoy, who have also included five of their own original poems in this anthology. English adaptations by Rosalma Zubizarreta adroitly capture the spirit of each cherished rhyme, and tender illustrations by award-winning artist Viví Escrivá will make the collection a family favorite for generations to come.



My Papa Diego and Me/Mi papá Diego y yo

Guadalupe Rivera Marín

Children's Book Press (September 2009)

ISBN: [978-0-89239-228-5](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/978-0-89239-228-5)

Languages Available: Bilingual

Ages: 6+

This intimate collection of stories by Guadalupe Rivera Marín and artwork by her father, Diego Rivera, reveals the pleasures and mysteries of a childhood spent with a larger-than-life master artist.

No More, Por Favor

Susan Middleton Elya

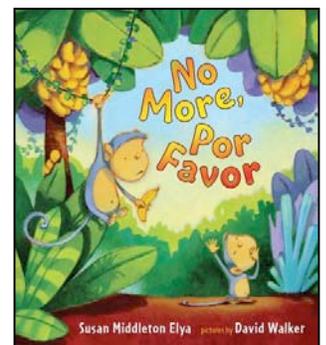
Illustrated by David Walker

Penguin Group USA (June 10, 2010)

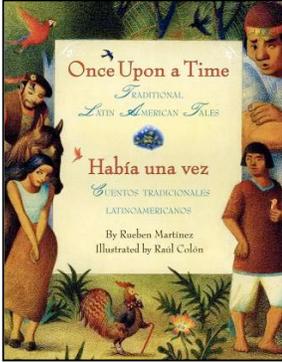
ISBN: [9780399247668](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/9780399247668)

Languages Available: Bilingual

Ages: 3-5



The rain forest is lush with delicious things to eat, but it's also full of terribly picky eaters! Mangoes are too sweet for the baby iguana, bananas are just too yellow for monito (little monkey), and little quetzal can't take even one more squishy avocado. Then fed-up Mamá Macaw has an idea that brings all the kids together to share a meal, and everyone finds exciting new foods to try. And what could be more fun than sharing a feast with friends?



Once Upon a Time/Había una vez
Traditional Latin American Tales/Cuentos tradicionales latinoamericanos

Rueben Martinez

HarperCollins Children's Books/Rayo (March 1, 2010)

ISBN: [9780061468957](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/9780061468957)

Languages Available: Bilingual

Ages: 5-10

Enter an enchanted world of kings and giants, where cockroaches play dress-up and coyotes fly to the moon! In this lively bilingual collection of short stories, Spain and Latin America's most beloved tales are retold for a new generation.

From the grateful rooster who cries "Cock-a-doodle-doo!" to the awesome spirit of the Mother of the Jungle, *Once Upon a Time/Había una vez* celebrates seven traditional folk tales with a colorful, fresh voice. In these magical adventures that are sure to delight, readers young and old will meet some of the world's most memorable heroes and charming tricksters.

Sonia Sotomayor: A Judge Grows in the Bronx/

La juez que creció en el Bronx

Jonah Winter

Illustrated by Edel Rodriguez

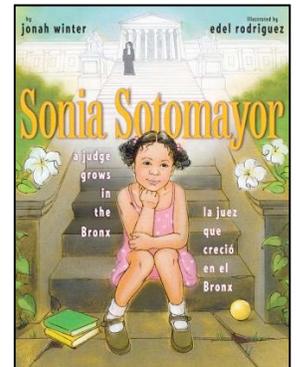
Atheneum Books for Young Readers (November 2009)

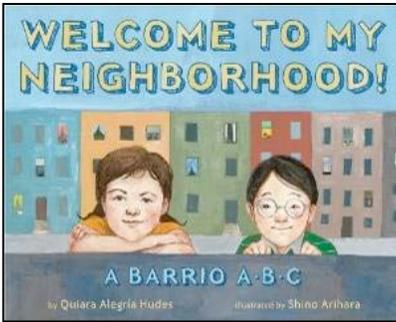
ISBN: [9781442403031](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/9781442403031)

Languages Available: Dual-language

Ages: 4-8

Before Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor took her seat in our nation's highest court, she was just a little girl in the South Bronx. Justice Sotomayor didn't have a lot growing up, but she had what she needed -- her mother's love, a will to learn, and her own determination. With bravery she became the person she wanted to be. With hard work she succeeded. With little sunlight and only a modest plot from which to grow, Justice Sotomayor bloomed for the whole world to see.





***Welcome to My Neighborhood! A Barrio ABC/
¡Bienvenidos a mi barrio! Mi mundo de la A a la Z***

Alegría Hudes

Illustrated by Shino Arihara

Arthur A. Levine Books, an imprint of Scholastic (August 2010)

ISBN: 978-0-545-09424-5

Languages Available: English and Spanish

Ages: 3-7

M is for los muralistas, making murals of island vistas.

Waterfalls that hide brick walls.

Rain forests full of tropical trees.

*N is for the noisy neighbors who sit on the stoop and
catch the breeze.*

When Ava's friend Chien visits her in the barrio, she takes him on a tour of all her favorite things about the neighborhood. From fire hydrants to ice-cream trucks, bodegas to trolley tracks, the sights and sounds of the barrio—even the less perfect things—come to life through the words of award-winning playwright Quiara Alegria Hudes.

A perfect way to get kids exploring and talking about what makes their own neighborhoods special!

Middle Grade

Confetti Girl

Diana Lopez

Little Brown Books for Young Readers (May 1, 2010)

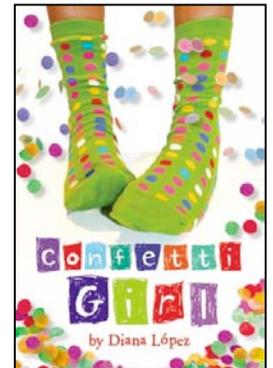
ISBN: [9780316029568](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780316029568)

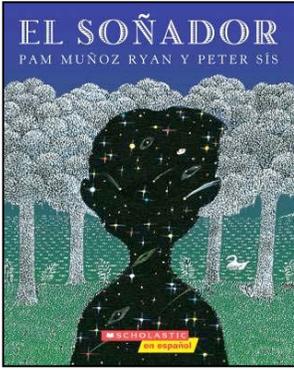
Languages Available: English

Ages: 8-12

A heartwarming middle grade story about a young Latina girl, navigating growing pains in her South Texan city, now available in paperback.

Apolonia "Lina" Flores is looking for answers, but she can't seem to figure out why she's losing all the important people in her life, even with a house crammed full of books and facts. With its strong voice, humor, endearing characters, and compelling subject matter, *Confetti Girl* is reminiscent of *The Year of the Dog* and Judy Blume. It portrays Hispanic-Americans in a day-to-day setting, rather than focusing on the common archetypes of migrant worker or inner city kid, and still retains the rich cultural aspects of Lina's heritage.





El soñador/The Dreamer

Pam Muñoz Ryan

Scholastic en español (April 2010)

ISBN: [978-0-545-17600-2](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/9780545176002)

Languages Available: English and Spanish

Ages: 9-14

Neftali finds beauty and wonder everywhere: in the oily colors of mud puddles, in a lost glove, in the wind while at sea, in the music of birds. He loves to collect treasures, daydream, and write—pastimes his authoritarian father thinks are for fools. Against all odds, Neftali prevails against his father's cruelty and his own crippling shyness to become one of the most widely read poets in the world, Pablo Neruda. This moving story about the birth of an artist is also a celebration of childhood, imagination, and the strength of the creative spirit. Sure to inspire young writers and artists.

Neftalí siente admiración y curiosidad por todo: los colores del aceite en un charco, un guante perdido, el viento al navegar, el canto de los pájaros. A Neftalí le encanta coleccionar tesoros, soñar despierto y escribir, ocupaciones que a su padre le parecen una pérdida de tiempo. Sin embargo, el espíritu de Neftali prevalece, a pesar de su timidez y por encima de la crueldad de su padre, y el chico llega a convertirse en Pablo Neruda, uno de los poetas más leídos en todo el mundo. Esta conmovedora historia acerca del nacimiento de un poeta es también un canto a la infancia, a la imaginación y a la fortaleza del espíritu creativo. Sin duda, este libro inspirará a jóvenes escritores y a artistas.

Ninety Miles to Havana

Enrique Flores-Galbis

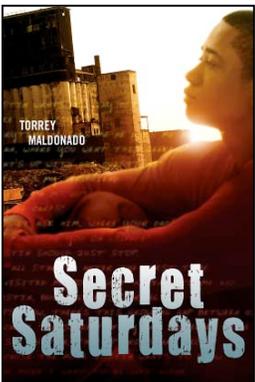
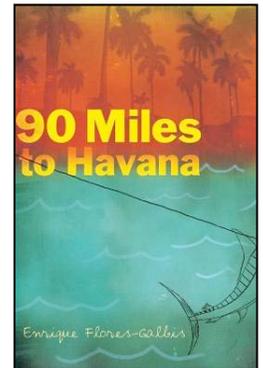
Roaring Brook Press, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group (August 3, 2010)

ISBN: 978-1-59643-168-3

Languages Available: English

Ages: 9-12

When Julian's parents make the heartbreaking decision to send him and his two brothers away from Cuba to Miami via the Pedro Pan operation, the boys are thrust into a new world where bullies run rampant and it's not always clear how best to protect themselves.



Secret Saturdays

Torrey Maldonado

Penguin Group USA (April 15, 2010)

ISBN: [9780399251580](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/9780399251580)

Languages Available: English

Ages: 10+

Sean is Justin's best friend, at least Justin thought he was. But lately Sean has been acting differently. Sean's been telling lies, getting into trouble at school, and hanging out with a tougher crowd, even getting into fights. When Justin finally discovers that Sean's been secretly going to visit his father in prison and is dealing with the shame of that, Justin wants to do something to help before his friend spirals further out of control. But what if confronting Sean means Justin loses his very best friend?

The Red Umbrella

Christina Diaz Gonzales

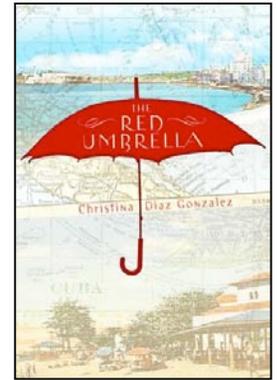
Random House Children's Books, Alfred A. Knopf (May 11, 2010)

ISBN: [978-0-375-86190-1](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780375861901)

Languages Available: English

Ages: 10+

The Red Umbrella is the moving tale of a 14-year-old girl's journey from Cuba to America as part of Operation Pedro Pan—an organized exodus of more than 14,000 unaccompanied children, whose parents sent them away to escape Fidel Castro's revolution.



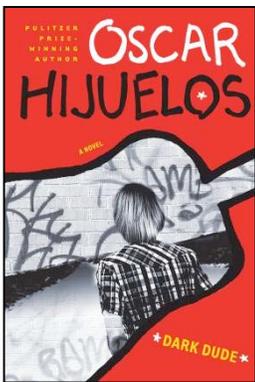
In 1961, two years after the Communist revolution, Lucía Álvarez still leads a carefree life, dreaming of parties and her first crush. But when the soldiers come to her sleepy Cuban town, everything begins to change. Freedoms are stripped away. Neighbors disappear. Her friends feel like strangers. And her family is being watched.

As the revolution's impact becomes more oppressive, Lucía's parents make the heart-wrenching decision to send her and her little brother to the United States—on their own.

Suddenly plunked down in Nebraska with well-meaning strangers, Lucía struggles to adapt to a new country, a new language, a new way of life. But what of her old life? Will she ever see her home or her parents again? And if she does, will she still be the same girl?

The Red Umbrella is a moving story of country, culture, family, and the true meaning of home.

Young Adult



Dark Dude

Oscar Hijuelos

Atheneum Books for Young Readers (September 2009)

ISBN: [9781416949459](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9781416949459)

Languages Available: English

Ages: 14+

In Wisconsin, Rico could blend in. His light hair and lighter skin wouldn't make him the "dark dude" or the punching bag for the whole neighborhood. The Midwest is the land of milk and honey, but for Rico Fuentes, it's really a last resort. Trading Harlem for Wisconsin, though, means giving up on a big part of his identity. And when Rico no longer has to prove that he's Latino, he almost stops being one. Except he can never have an ordinary white kid's life, because there are some things that can't be left behind, that can't be cut loose or forgotten. These are the things that will be with you forever . . . These are the things that will follow you a thousand miles away. Pulitzer Prize winner Hijuelos takes us on an unforgettable journey about identity, mistaken identity, and all that we take with us when we run away.

Dizzy In Your Eyes: Poems About Love

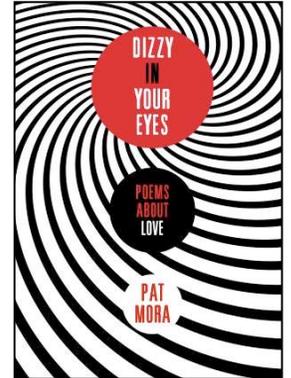
Pat Mora

Random House Children's Books, Alfred A. Knopf (January 12, 2010)

ISBN: [978-0-375-84375-4](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780375843754)

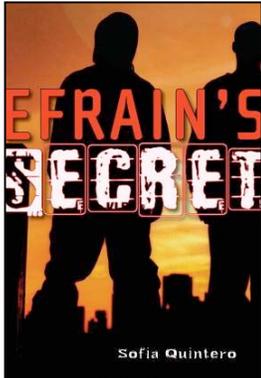
Languages Available: English (some poems in Spanish)

Ages: 12+



Beloved children's book author and speaker Pat Mora has written an original collection of poems in both English and Spanish, each with a different teen narrator sharing unique thoughts, moments, sadness, or heart's desire: the girl who loves swimming, plunging into the water that creates her own world; the guy who leaves flowers on the windshield of the girl he likes. Each of the teens in these 50 original poems, written using a variety of poetic forms, will be recognizable to the reader as the universal emotions, ideas, impressions, and beliefs float across the pages in these gracefully told verses.

Also included are the author's footnotes on the various types of poetic forms used throughout to help demystify poetry and showcase its accessibility, which makes this a perfect classroom tool for teachers as well as an inspiration to readers who may wish to try their own hand at writing.



Efrain's Secret

Sofia Quintero

Random House Children's Books, Alfred A. Knopf (April 13, 2010)

ISBN: [978-0-375-84706-6](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780375847066)

Languages Available: English

Ages: 12+

Ambitious high school senior Efrain Rodriguez dreams of escaping the South Bronx for an Ivy League college like Harvard or Yale. But how is his family going to afford to pay for a prestigious university when Mom has to work insane hours to put food on the table as it is? And Efrain wouldn't dare ask that good-for-nothing father of his who has traded his family in for younger models. Left with few options, Efrain chooses to do something he never thought he would. He embarks on a double life—honor student by day, drug peddler at night—convinced that by temporarily capitulating to society's negative expectations of a boy like him, he can eventually defy them.

Sofia Quintero makes a stunning debut writing for young adults with this gritty, complex, and real exploration of the life of an urban teen whose attempt to leave one world behind for a better one could cost him everything.

Of All the Stupid Things

Alexandra Diaz

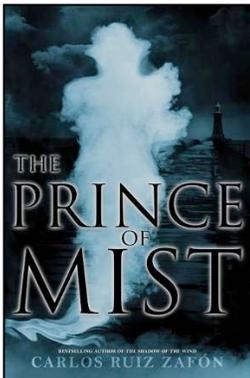
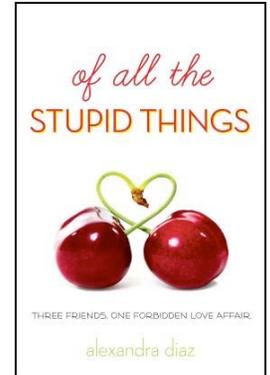
Egmont USA (December 12, 2009)

ISBN: [978-1-60684-034-4](#)

Languages Available: English

Ages: 14+

When a rumor starts circulating that Tara's boyfriend Brent has been sleeping with one of the guy cheerleaders, the innuendo doesn't just hurt Tara. It marks the beginning of the end for an inseparable trio of friends. Tara's training for a marathon, but also running from her fear of abandonment after being deserted by her father. Whitney Blaire seems to have everything, but an empty mansion and absentee parents leave this beauty to look for meaning in all the wrong places. And Pinkie has a compulsive need to mother everyone to make up for the mom she's never stopped missing. This friendship that promised to last forever is starting to break under the pressure of the girls' differences. And then new-girl Riley arrives in school with her long black hair, athletic body, and her blasé attitude, and suddenly Tara starts to feel things she's never felt before for a girl--and to reassess her feelings about Brent and what he may/may not have done. Is Tara gay--or does she just love Riley? And can her deepest friendships survive when all of the rules have changed?



Prince of Mist

Carlos Ruiz Safron

Little Brown Books for Young Readers (May 4, 2010)

ISBN: [9780316044776](#)

Languages Available: English

Ages: 12+

A YA novel from bestselling *The Shadow of the Wind* author Carlos Ruiz Zafón, translated from the original Spanish by acclaimed translator Lucia Graves. A mysterious house harbors an unimaginable secret... It's war time, and the Carver family decides to leave the capital where they live and move to a small coastal village where they've recently bought a home. But from the minute they cross the threshold, strange things begin to happen. Soon three friends find themselves caught up in an adventure of sunken ships and an enchanted stone garden--an adventure that will change their lives forever.

Sisters, Strangers and Starting Over

Belinda Acosta

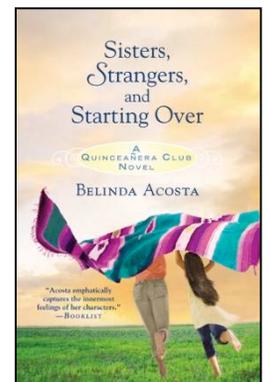
Grand Central Publishing (July 20, 2010)

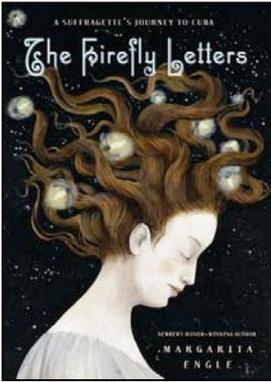
ISBN: [9780446540520](#)

Languages Available: English, bilingual reading group guide available

Ages: YA-Adult

While planning a *quinceañera* for her estranged niece, Beatriz learns about life and motherhood in this heartfelt second installment of the *Quinceañera Club* series. *Damas, Drama and Ana Ruiz* (Pub 8/09, 9780446540513) was the first book in this new series that explores the relationship between mothers and daughters and revolves around one of the most important days in a young girl's life: her *quinceañera*.





The Firefly Letters

Margarita Engle

Henry Holt Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group (March 16, 2010)

ISBN: [978-0-8050-9082-6](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/9780805090826)

Languages Available: English

Ages: 12+

The freedom to roam is something that women and girls in Cuba do not have. Yet when Fredrika Bremer visits from Sweden in 1851 to learn about the people of this magical island, she is accompanied by Cecilia, a young slave who longs for her lost home in Africa. Soon Elena, the wealthy daughter of the house, sneaks out to join them. As the three women explore the lush countryside, they form a bond that breaks the barriers of language and culture.

In this quietly powerful new book, award-winning poet Margarita Engle paints a portrait of early women's rights pioneer Fredrika Bremer and the journey to Cuba that transformed her life.

The Surrender Tree

Margarita Engle

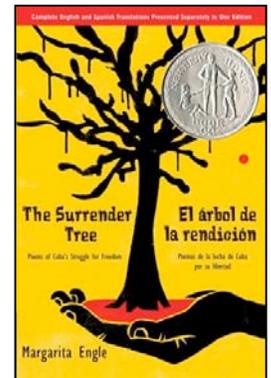
Square Fish, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group (April 1, 2010)

ISBN: [978-0-8050-8674-4](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/9780805086744)

Languages Available: Dual-language

Ages: 12+

It is 1896. Cuba has fought three wars for independence and still is not free. People have been rounded up in reconcentration camps with too little food and too much illness. Rosa is a nurse, but with a price on her head for helping the rebels, she dares not go to the camps. Instead, she turns hidden caves into hospitals for those who know how to find her.



Black, white, Cuban, Spanish—Rosa does her best for everyone. Yet who can heal a country so torn apart by war? Acclaimed poet Margarita Engle has created another breathtaking portrait of Cuba.

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