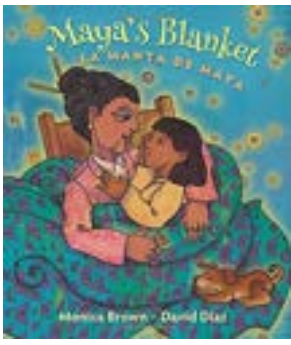



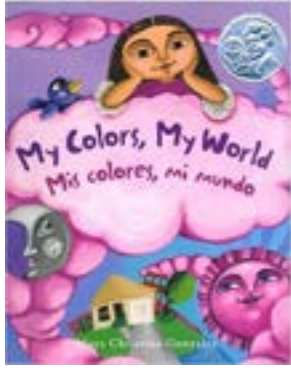


Text Set 6: Latinx Families and Communities In the U.S.

Overview: The Latinx community is characterized by its rich cultural diversity. Amidst this diversity, one common thread is the profound significance and strong presence of family bonds. This collection of books and multimedia texts honors the intricate dynamics of families within the Latinx culture and explores the powerful sense of collectivism that holds deep meaning and value for these communities.

Picture Books	
	<p><i>I Love Saturdays y Domingos</i></p> <p>By: Alma Flor Ada</p> <p>Saturdays and Sundays are very special days for the child in this story. On Saturdays, she visits Grandma and Grandpa, who come from a European-American background, and on Sundays -- <i>los domingos</i> -- she visits <i>Abuelito y Abuelita</i>, who are Mexican-American. While the two sets of grandparents are different in many ways, they also have a great deal in common -- in particular, their love for their granddaughter.</p>
	<p><i>Family Poems For Everyday of the Week / Poemas familiares para cada día de la semana</i></p> <p>By: Francisco X. Alacrón & Maya Christina Gonzalez (illus.)</p> <p>This bilingual collection of poems takes us through the week day by day. Children spend Sunday visiting their grandparents, play with school friends on Monday, daydream on Tuesday, eat popcorn at the local market on Wednesday, and more, until we arrive at Saturday, when they play.</p>

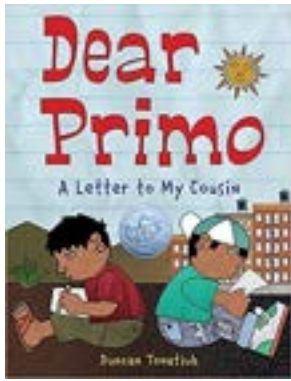
	<p><i>Maya's Blanket/La Manta de Maya</i></p> <p>By: Monica Brown & David Diaz (Illus.)</p> <p>Little Maya has a special blanket that Grandma stitched with her own two hands. As Maya grows, her blanket becomes worn and frayed, so Grandma helps her make it into a dress. Over time the dress is made into a skirt, a shawl, a scarf, a hair ribbon, and finally, a bookmark. Each item has special meaning for Maya, animating her adventures and protecting her.</p>
	<p><i>Hairs Pelitos</i></p> <p>By: Sandra Cisneros</p> <p>A vignette from Sandra Cisneros's prolific book, <i>The House on Mango Street</i> shows, through simple, intimate portraits, the diversity among us.</p>
	<p><i>Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood</i></p> <p>By: F. Isabel Campoy & Theresa Howell (Illus.)</p> <p>What good can a splash of color do in a community of gray? As Mira and her neighbors discover, more than you might ever imagine! Based on the true story of the Urban Art Trail in San Diego, California, <i>Maybe Something Beautiful</i> reveals how art can inspire transformation—and how even the smallest artists can accomplish something big.</p>
	<p><i>Mango, Abuela Y Yo</i></p> <p>By Meg Medina & Angela Dominguez</p> <p>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.</p>



My Colors, My World / Mis colores, mi mundo

By: Maya Christina Gonzalez

Maya longs to find brilliant, beautiful color in her world. But when the wind blows, desert sand covers everything, and turns her whole neighborhood the color of dust. Maya searches high and low to find the colors in her world. And she does—in the vibrant purple of her Mama's flowers, the juicy green of a prickly cactus, the hot pink clouds at sunset, and the shiny black of her Papi's hair.



Dear Primo

By Duncan Tonatiuh

Two cousins—one in the United States and one in Mexico—learn their lives aren't so different through their letters.

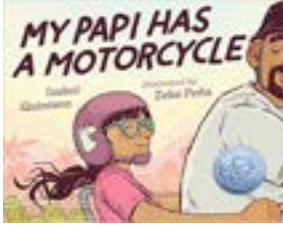





My Abuelita

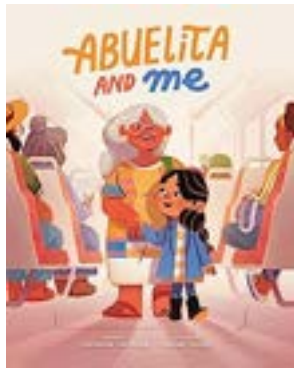
By: Tony Johnston & Yuyi Morales (Illus.)

Abuelita's hair is the color of salt. Her face is as crinkled as a dried chile. She booms out words as wild as blossoms blooming. She stuffs her *carcacha*--her jalopy--with all the things she needs: a plumed snake, a castle, a skeleton, and more. Her grandson knows he has the most amazing grandmother ever--with a *very* important job. What does Abuelita do? With her booming voice and wonderful props, Abuelita is a storyteller.

 [Making My Abuelita](#)

	<p><i>My Papi Has a Motorcycle</i></p> <p>By: Isabel Quintero & Zeke Peña</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><i>Book Fiesta!</i></p> <p>by Pat Mora (Author), Rafael Lopez (Illustrator)</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><i>Hey Wall</i></p> <p>By: Susan Verde & John Parra</p> <p>There is a wall in Ángel's neighborhood. Around it, the community bustles with life: music, dancing, laughing. Not the wall. It is bleak. One boy decides to change that. But he can't do it alone.</p>
	<p><i>Nana's Big Surprise</i></p> <p>by Amada Irma Perez (Author), Maya Christina Gonzalez (Illustrator)</p> <p>Nana's visit from Mexico should be a joyous occasion. But this summer she's coming to California because Tata has died. Amada and her five brothers hope to cheer her up with a surprise gift of a coop full of fluffy yellow chicks just like the ones Nana raised with Tata in Mexico.</p>

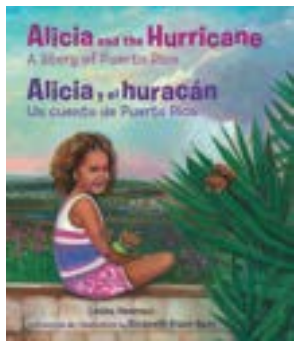
	<p><i>What Can You Do with a Paleta?</i></p> <p>By Carmen Tafolla & Magaly Morales</p> <p>When the paleta wagon appears with cool, fruit popsicles, a child celebrates all the things you can do with a paleta in addition to eating it – make your tongue purple or paint a blue mustache.</p>
	<p><i>Plátanos are Love</i></p> <p>By: Alyssa Reynoso-Morris, Mariyah Rahman</p> <p><i>Abuela says, “plátanos are love.” I thought they were food. But Abuela says they feed us in more ways than one.</i></p> <p>With every <i>pop</i> of the tostones, <i>mash</i> of the mangú, and <i>sizzle</i> of the maduros, a little girl learns that plátanos are her history, they are her culture, and—most importantly—they are love.</p>
	<p><i>Rafa Counts on Papá</i></p> <p>By: Joe Cepeda</p> <p>Rafa and his papá love to count and measure. They know how many branches they climb to their favorite spot, they know how high their dog Euclid can jump, and they know how far they can run. But there’s one thing Rafa can't count or measure because it is infinite: the love that he and his papá share.</p>
	<p><i>Abuelita and I Make Flan</i></p> <p>By: Adriana Hernández Bergstrom</p> <p>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?</p>



Abuelita and Me

By: Leonarda Carranza, Rafael Mayani

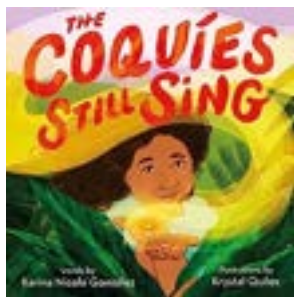
Spending time at home with Abuelita means pancakes, puddle-jumping, and nail-painting. But venturing out into the city is not always as fun. On the bus and at the grocery store, people are impatient and suspicious—sometimes they even yell. Sad, angry, and scared, the story’s young narrator decides not to leave home again . . . until a moment of empowerment helps her see the strength she and Abuelita share when they face the world together.



Alicia and the Hurricane/ Alicia Y El Huracán: A Story of Puerto Rico/ Un Cuento de Puerto Rico

By: Leslea Newman, Elizabeth Erazo Baez and Georgina Lazaro

One day a terrible hurricane comes to Puerto Rico, and Alicia and her family take refuge in a shelter. At bedtime Alicia hears grown-ups snoring and babies crying, wind howling and rain pounding. But even though she listens hard, she cannot hear the song of the coquíes.



The Coquíes Still Sing: A Story of Home, Hope, and Rebuilding

By: Karina Nicole González, Krystal Quiles

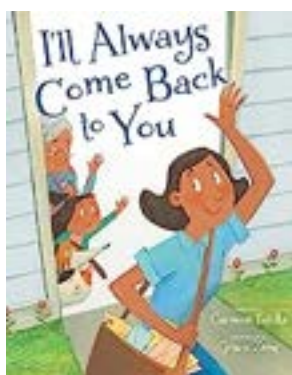
A powerful story about home, community, and hope, inspired by the rebuilding of Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria in 2017. The coquí frogs sing to Elena from her family’s beloved mango tree—their calls so familiar that they might as well be singing, “You are home, you are safe.” But home is not safe 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 community.



Mariana and Her Familia

By: Mónica Mancillas, Erika Meza

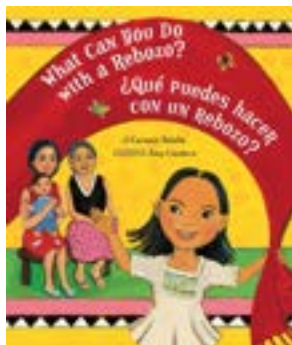
Mariana is visiting her abuelita and extended family in Mexico for the first time. Her tummy does a flip as she and Mami cross the frontera. There are all new sights, smells, and sounds. And at Abuelita's house, Mariana is overwhelmed by new faces and Spanish phrases she doesn't understand. But with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



I'll Always Come Back To You

By: Carmen Tafolla, Grace Zong




What happens when someone you love heads out the door? When a mother goes out to work, she reassures her child that nothing can keep her from coming back home again. Mom promises that she would even ride on a whale or fight off a passel of bears, if that's what it takes to return to her child! Her daughter might have to wait with Gramma or a friend at home.

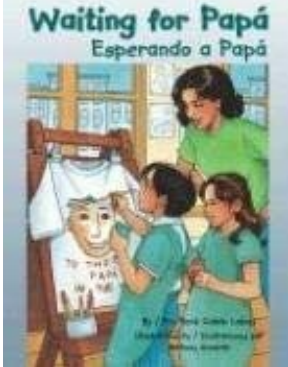

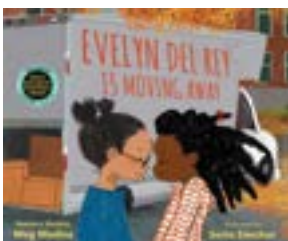


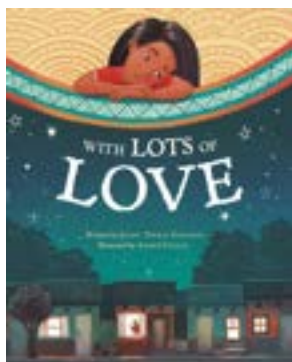
What Can You Do With a Rebozo? ¿Qué puedes hacer con un rebozo?

By: Carmen Tafolla, Amy Cordova

A cradle for a baby, a superhero's cape, a warm blanket on a cool night--there are so many things you can do with a rebozo. Through the eyes of a young girl, readers are introduced to the traditional shawl found in many Mexican and Mexican-American households.

	<p><i>Alejandria Fights Back! ¡La lucha de Alejandria!</i></p> <p>By: Leticia Hernández-Linares</p> <p>For Alejandria, home isn't just the apartment she shares with Mami and her abuela, Tita, but rather the whole neighborhood. Home is the bakery where Ms. Beatrice makes yummy picos; the sidewalk where Ms. Alicia sells flowers with her little dog, Duende; and the corner store with friendly Mr. Amir.</p>
	<p><i>Jasmin Pictures Home / Jasmin ilustra su hogar</i></p> <p>By: Andy Pina, Antonia Marisol Garcia, Pedro Reyes, Yunior Jose Garcia, and Ian L. Springer</p> <p>A group of friends are the only kids in their school who are not from the City of Caves. They are all immigrants --from four different countries!--and they all speak Spanish. Though they bond over their shared language and their shared love of soccer, it's not always easy being different from everyone else.</p>
	<p><i>Let's Go See Papá!</i></p> <p>By: Lawrence Shimel</p> <p>The girl in this story likes Sundays best of all -- it's the day her father calls. She hasn't seen him for over a year because he works far away across the ocean in the United States. She writes in her notebook every day, keeping a record of everything that happens to share with him when she finally sees him again. Then one Sunday her father asks if she and her mother would like to join him, and she's surprised by her mixed feelings.</p>

	<p><i>Waiting For Papá/ Esperando a papá</i></p> <p>By René Colato-Láinez</p> <p>As Beto looks at the eight candles on his birthday cake, he knows that his wish is always the same. Beto wishes that he could be with his father every chance he gets. It has been three years since he and Mama left El Salvador. Lurking in his mind are the memories of the losses they suffered before leaving: the bombing of a factory, the burning of the family home, the loss of all their possessions, but most of all, he thinks of the father that he has left behind.</p>
	<p><i>Yo Soy Muslim: A Father's Letter to His Daughter</i></p> <p>By: Mark Gonzales, Mehrdokht Amini</p> <p>Written as a letter from a father to his daughter, <i>Yo Soy Muslim</i> is a celebration of social harmony and multicultural identities. The vivid and elegant verse, accompanied by magical and vibrant illustrations, highlights the diversity of the Muslim community as well as Latinx identity. A literary journey of discovery and wonder, <i>Yo Soy Muslim</i> is sure to inspire adults and children alike.</p>
	<p><i>Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away</i></p> <p>By Meg Medina and Sonia Sanchez</p> <p>Evelyn Del Rey is Daniela's best friend, her mejor amiga. But after today, everything will be different. After today, Evelyn won't live in a mirror-image apartment across the street. Today Evelyn Del Rey is moving away. The two girls spend one last afternoon together in Evelyn's apartment, playing among the boxes, until the apartment is empty and it's time to say their goodbyes. They promise to visit and keep in touch, and though they will be apart, they know they will always be each other's first best friend, their numero uno.</p>

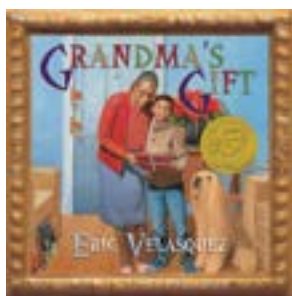


With Lots of Love

By: Jenny Torres Sanchez, 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.

Afro Latinx



Grandma's Gifts

By: Eric Velasquez

This prequel to Eric Velasquez's biographical picture book *Grandma's Records* is the story of a Christmas holiday that young Eric spends with his grandmother. After they prepare their traditional Puerto Rican Christmas celebration, Eric and Grandma visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art for a school project, where he sees a painting by Diego Velasquez and realizes that he could be an artist when he grows up.



Grandma's Records

By: Eric Velasquez

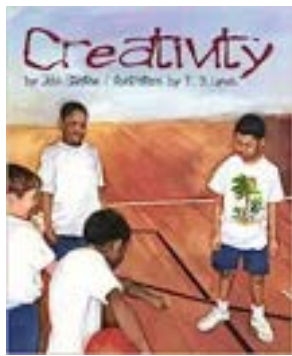
Every summer, Eric goes to live with his grandmother in El Barrio (Spanish Harlem) while his parents work. Through the long hot days, Grandma fills her apartment with the blaring horns and conga drums of Bomba y Plena, salsa, and merengue—the music she grew up with in Puerto Rico, sharing her memories and passions with Eric.



Octopus Stew

By: Eric Velasquez

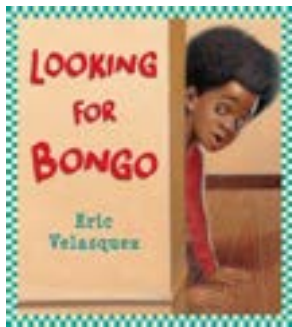
The octopus Grandma is cooking has grown to titanic proportions. "¡Tenga cuidado!" Ramsey shouts. "Be careful!" But it's too late. The octopus traps Grandma! Ramsey uses both art and intellect to free his beloved abuela. Then the story takes a surprising twist. And it can be read two ways. Open the fold-out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



Creativity

By: John Steptoe and E.B. Lewis

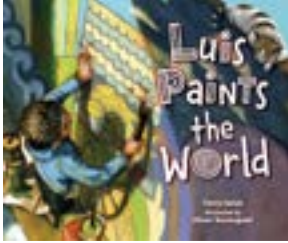
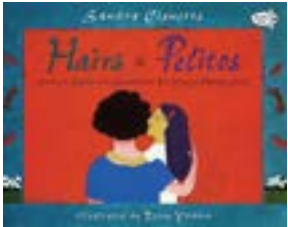


Charles, an African American student, learns to appreciate his similarities to and differences from his new friend Hector, who is from Puerto Rico.

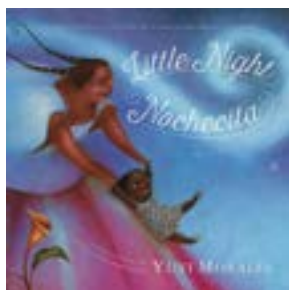


Looking for Bongo

By: Eric Velasquez

The boy knows Bongo was right there with him this morning—but suddenly, Bongo is missing. He asks his whole family if they've seen the stuffed toy, but no one has. When he finds Bongo, the boy is thrilled—but he still doesn't understand how his toy ended up there. So he sets a trap to catch the Bongo thief. The detailed, expressive illustrations follow the boy's investigation throughout his home, giving a glimpse at a warm, multi-generational family.

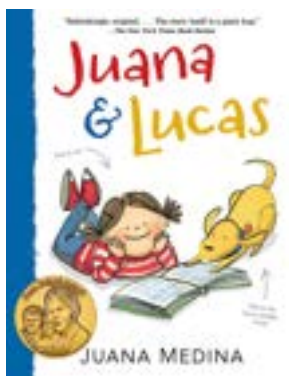
	<p><i>Luis Paints the World</i></p> <p>By: Terry Farish, Oliver Dominguez</p> <p>Luis wishes Nico wasn't leaving for the Army. To show Nico he doesn't need to go, Luis begins a mural on the alleyway wall. Their house, the river, the Parque de las Ardillas—it's the world, all right there. Won't Nico miss Mami's sweet flan? What about their baseball games in the street?</p>
	<p><i>Hairs and Pelitos</i></p> <p>By: Sandra Cisneros</p> <p>This jewel-like vignette from Sandra Cisneros's best-selling <i>The House on Mango Street</i> shows, through simple, intimate portraits, the diversity among us.</p>
	<p>In my family</p> <p>by Carmen Lomas Garza</p> <p>Following the best-selling <i>Family Pictures</i>, <i>In My Family/En mi familia</i> is Carmen Lomas Garza's continuing tribute to the family and community that shaped her childhood and her life. Lomas Garza's vibrant paintings and warm personal stories depict memories of growing up in the traditional Mexican-American community of her hometown of Kingsville, Texas.</p>
	<p>Family Pictures</p> <p>by Carmen Lomas Garza</p> <p>The English-Spanish text and vivid illustrations reflect the author's strong sense of family and community. For Mexican Americans, Carmen Lomas Garza offers a book that reflects their lives and traditions. For others, this work offers insights into a beautifully rich community.</p>



Little Night/ Nohecita

By: Yuyi Morales

As the long day comes to an end, Mother Sky fills a tub with falling stars and calls, "Bath time for Little Night! Little Night answers from afar, "Can't come. I am hiding and you have to find me, Mama. Find me now!" Where could Little Night be? Down a rabbit hole? In a blueberry field? Among the stripes of bees? Exquisitely painted and as gentle as Little Night's dress crocheted from clouds, this is a story to treasure.



Juana & Lucas

By: Juana Medina

Fans of Judy Moody and Clarice Bean will love Juana, the spunky young Colombian girl who stars in this playful, abundantly illustrated series. Juana loves many things: drawing, living in Bogotá, Colombia, and especially her dog, Lucas, the best *amigo* ever.

Middle Grade



Merci Suárez Changes Gears

By Meg Medina

Merci Suarez knew that sixth grade would be different, but she had no idea how different. Merci has never been like the other kids at her private school in Florida, because she is a scholarship student and becomes the target of a classmate's jealousy. Things aren't going well at home, either: Merci's grandfather and most trusted ally, Lolo, has been acting strangely lately -- forgetting important things, falling from his bike, and getting angry over nothing. No one in her Cuban American family will tell Merci what's going on, so she's left to her own worries, while also feeling on her own at school.

A trilogy that follows Merci into 7th and 8th grade.



Warrior Girl

By: Carmen Tafolla

Celina and her bilingual family follow Mexican and American traditions. Celina revels in her Mexican heritage, but feels like school wants to erase that part of her identity. Fortunately, she's got an army of family and three fabulous new friends behind her to fight the ignorance. But it's her Gramma who's her biggest inspiration, encouraging Celina to build a shield of joy around herself. Of course, it's not possible to stay in celebration mode when her dad's deported and a pandemic hits, but if there is anything Celina's sure of, it's that she'll always live up to her last name of Guerrero—woman warrior.



Tumble

By: Celia C. Perez

Twelve-year-old Adela “Addie” Ramírez has a big decision to make when her stepfather proposes adoption. Addie loves Alex, the only father figure she's ever known, but with a new half brother due in a few months and a big school theater performance on her mind, everything suddenly feels like it's moving too fast. She has a million questions, and the first is about the young man in the photo she found hidden away in her mother's things.

See also *Strange Birds* and *The First Rule of Punk*.



Iveliz Explains It All

By: Andrea Beatriz Arango and Alyssa Bermudez

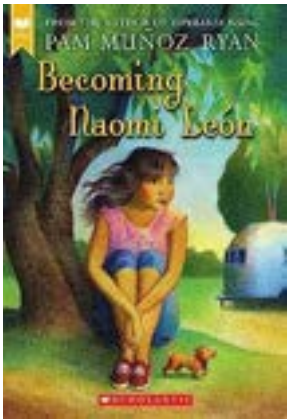
To navigate her school and home lives through depression and PTSD, a Latina girl retreats into her poetry and journal. Seventh grader Iveliz plans to make this a great year despite recent trauma. Her abuela Mimi's arrival from Puerto Rico means a chance to feel like a family again, filling in the space left by her father's absence. But Mimi's Alzheimer's has progressed and Iveliz's fraught relationship with her distant, always working Mami doesn't help to keep the peace.



The Moon Within

By: Aida Salazar

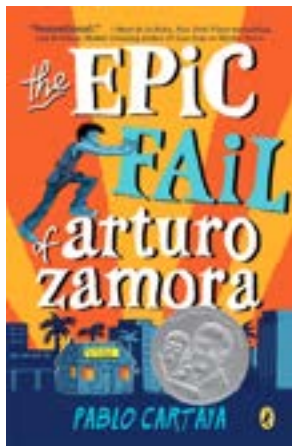
Celi Rivera's life swirls with questions. About her changing body. Her first attraction to a boy. And her best friend's exploration of what it means to be genderfluid. But most of all, her mother's insistence she have a moon ceremony when her first period arrives. It's an ancestral Mexica ritual that Mima and her community have reclaimed, but Celi promises she will NOT be participating. Can she find the power within herself to take a stand for who she wants to be? A dazzling story told with the sensitivity, humor, and brilliant verse of debut talent Aida Salazar.



Becoming Naomi León

By: Pam Muñoz Ryan

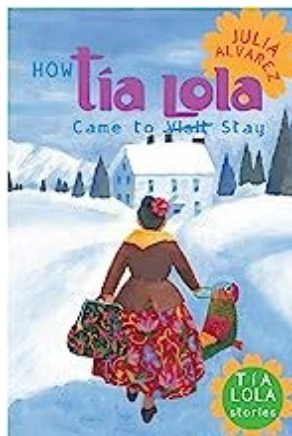
Naomi Soledad León Outlaw has had a lot to contend with in her young life, her name for one. Then there are her clothes (sewn in polyester by Gram), her difficulty speaking up, and her status at school as "nobody special." But according to Gram's self-prophecies, most problems can be overcome with positive thinking. Luckily, Naomi also has her carving to strengthen her spirit. And life with Gram and her little brother, Owen, is happy and peaceful. That is, until their mother reappears for the first time in seven years, stirring up all sorts of questions and challenging Naomi to discover who she really is.



The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora

By: Pablo Cartaya

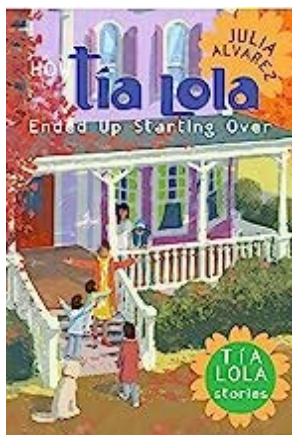
For Arturo, summertime in Miami means playing basketball until dark, sipping mango smoothies, and keeping cool under banyan trees. And maybe a few shifts as junior lunchtime dishwasher at Abuela’s restaurant. Maybe. But this summer also includes Carmen, a poetry enthusiast who moves into Arturo’s apartment complex and turns his stomach into a deep fryer. He almost doesn’t notice the smarmy land developer who rolls into town and threatens to change it.



How Tía Lola Came to (Visit) Stay

By: Julia Alvarez

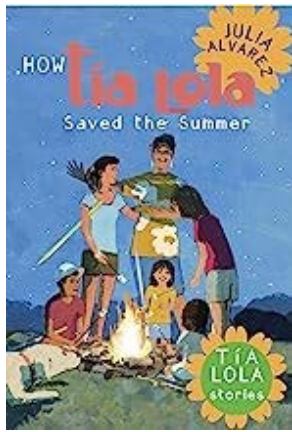
Moving to Vermont after his parents split, Miguel has plenty to worry about! Tía Lola, his quirky, *carismática*, and maybe magical aunt makes his life even more unpredictable when she arrives from the Dominican Republic to help out his Mami. Like her stories for adults, Julia Alvarez’s first middle-grade book sparkles with magic as it illuminates a child’s experiences living in two cultures.



How Tía Lola Ended Up Starting Over

By: Julia Alvarez

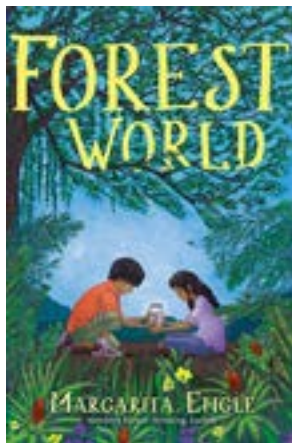
With the help of her niece and nephew and the three Sword Sisters, Tía Lola is opening the doors of a grand old Vermont house to visitors from all over. But Tía Lola and the children soon realize that running a B & B isn't as easy as they thought—especially when it appears that someone is out to sabotage them! Will Tía Lola and the kids discover who's behind the plot to make their B & B fail? And will Tía Lola's family and friends be able to plan her a surprise birthday party in her own B & B without her finding out?



How Tía Lola Saved the Summer

By: Julia Alvarez

Miguel Guzman isn't exactly looking forward to the summer now that his mother has agreed to let the Sword family—a father, his three daughters, and their dog—live with them while they decide whether or not to move to Vermont. Little does Miguel know his aunt has something up her sleeve that just may make this the best summer ever. With her usual flair for creativity and fun, Tía Lola decides to start a summer camp for Miguel, his little sister, and the three Sword girls, complete with magical swords, nighttime treasure hunts, campfires, barbecues, and an end-of-summer surprise!



Forest World

By: Margarita Engle

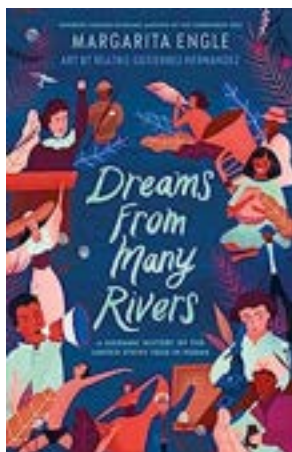
Edver isn't happy about being shipped off to Cuba to visit the father he barely knows. Yet now that travel laws have changed and it's easier for divided families to be reunited, his mom thinks it's time for father-son bonding. Edver doesn't know what this summer has in store, but he's definitely not expecting to meet a sister he didn't know existed! Luza is a year older and excited to see her little brother, until she realizes how different their lives have been. Looking for anything they might have in common, they sneak onto the internet—and accidentally catch the interest of a dangerous wildlife poacher. To save the Cuban jungle they love, he and Luza are going to have to find a way to conquer a *real* villain!



Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir

By: Margarita Engle

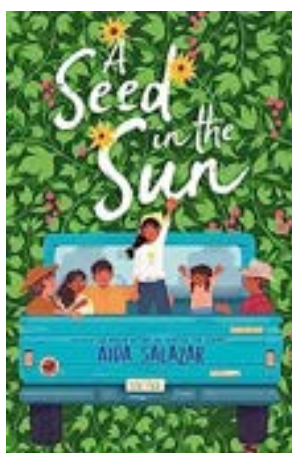
Margarita is a girl from two worlds. Her heart lies in Cuba, her mother's tropical island country, a place so lush with vibrant life that it seems like a fairy tale kingdom. But most of the time she lives in Los Angeles, lonely in the noisy city and dreaming of the summers when she can take a plane through the enchanted air to her beloved island. Then a revolution breaks out in Cuba. Margarita fears for her far-away family. When the hostility between Cuba and the United States erupts at the Bay of Pigs Invasion, Margarita's worlds collide in the worst way possible. How can the two countries she loves hate each other so much? And will she ever get to visit her beautiful island again?



Dreams From Many Rivers: A Hispanic History of the United States Told in Poems

By: Margarita Engle, Beatriz Gutierrez-Hernandez

From Juana Briones and Juan Ponce de León, to eighteenth century slaves and modern-day sixth graders, the many and varied people depicted in this moving narrative speak to the experiences and contributions of Latinos throughout the history of the United States, from the earliest known stories up to present day.

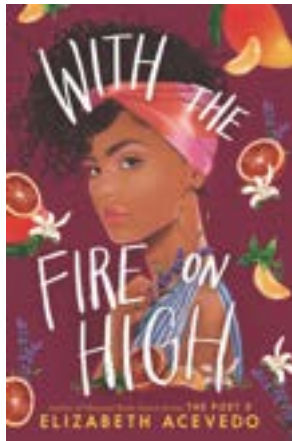


A Seed in the Sun

by Aida Salazar

Lula Viramontes aches to one day become someone whom no one can ignore: a daring ringleader in a Mexican traveling circus. But between working the grape harvest in Delano, California, with her older siblings under dangerous conditions; taking care of her younger siblings and Mamá, who has mysteriously fallen ill; and doing everything she can to avoid Papá's volatile temper, it's hard to hold on to those dreams.

Young Adult



With the Fire On High

By: Elizabeth Acevedo

Ever since she got pregnant in her freshman year, Emoni Santiago's life has been about making tough decisions—doing what has to be done for her daughter and her abuela. The one place she can let all that go is in the kitchen, where she adds a little something magical to everything she cooks, turning her food into straight-up goodness.



Wild Tongues Can't Be Tamed: 15 Voices from the Latinx Diaspora

By: Saracicia J. Fennell

Award-winning authors as well as up-and-coming voices interrogate myths and stereotypes about the Latinx diaspora. These fifteen original pieces delve into everything from ghost stories and superheroes, to memories in the kitchen and travels around the world, to addiction and grief, to identity and anti-Blackness, to finding love and speaking your truth. Full of both sorrow and joy, these short stories are a celebration of a rich and diverse community.



Call Me Maria

By: Judith Ortiz Cofer

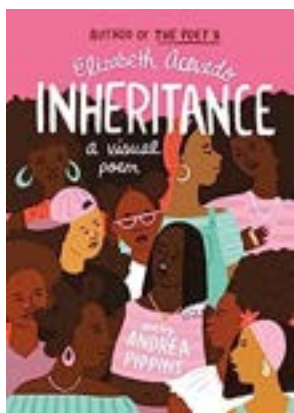
Maria is a girl caught between two worlds: Puerto Rico, where she was born, and New York, where she lives in a basement apartment in the barrio. While her mother remains on the island, Maria lives with her father, the super of their building. As she struggles to lose her island accent, Maria does her best to find her place within the unfamiliar culture of the barrio. Finally, with the Spanglish of the barrio people ringing in her ears, she finds the poet within herself.



Don't Ask Me Where I'm From

By: Jennifer De Leon, Elena Garnu

First-generation American LatinX Liliana Cruz does what it takes to fit in at her new nearly all-white school. But when family secrets spill out and racism at school ramps up, she must decide what she believes in and take a stand



Inheritance: A Visual Poem

By: Elizabeth Acevedo

In her most famous spoken-word poem, Elizabeth Acevedo embraces all the complexities of Black hair and Afro-Latinidad—the history, pain, pride, and powerful love of that inheritance.



We Light Up the Sky

By: Lilliam Rivera

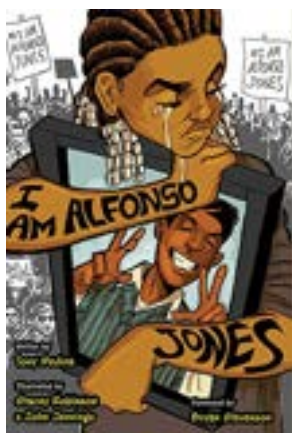
Pedro, Luna, and Rafa attend Fairfax High School together in Los Angeles, but run in separate spheres. Pedro, Luna, and Rafa find themselves thrown together when an extraterrestrial visitor lands in their city and takes the form of Luna's dead cousin Tasha. As the Visitor causes destruction wherever it goes, the three teens struggle to survive and warn others of what's coming--because this Visitor is only the first of many. But who is their true enemy--this alien, or their fellow humans?



When We Make It: A Nuyorican Novel

By: Elisabet Velasquez

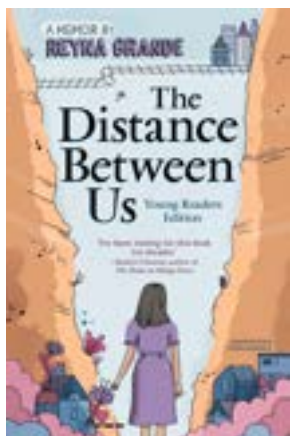
Sarai is a first-generation Puerto Rican question asker who can see with clarity the truth, pain, and beauty of the world both inside and outside her Bushwick apartment. Together with her older sister, Estrella, she navigates the strain of family traumas and the systemic pressures of toxic masculinity and housing insecurity in a rapidly gentrifying Brooklyn. Sarai questions the society around her, her Boricua identity, and the life she lives with determination and an open heart, learning to celebrate herself in a way that she has long been denied.



I am Alfonso Jones

By: Tony Medina, Stacey Robinson, and John Jennings

Alfonso Jones can't wait to play the role of Hamlet in his school's hip-hop rendition of the Shakespearean play. He also wants to let his best friend, Danetta, know how he feels about her. But as he is buying his first suit, an off-duty police officer mistakes a clothes hanger for a gun, and shoots Alfonso. When he wakes up in the afterlife, he's on a ghost train guided by well-known victims of police shootings, who teach him what he needs to know about this spiritual world.



The Distance Between Us (young readers edition)

by Reyna Grande

When her parents make the dangerous and illegal trek across the Mexican border in pursuit of the American dream, Reyna and her siblings are forced to live with their stern grandmother, as they wait for their parents to build the foundation of a new life. But when things don't go quite as planned, Reyna finds herself preparing for her own journey to "El Otro Lado" to live with the man who has haunted her imagination for years: her long-absent father. Both funny and heartbreaking,



Clap When You land

by Elizabeth Acevedo

Camino Rios lives for the summers when her father visits her in the Dominican Republic. But this time, on the day when his plane is supposed to land, Camino arrives at the airport to see crowds of crying people... In New York City, Yahaira Rios is called to the principal's office, where her mother is waiting to tell her that her father, her hero, has died in a plane crash.



Sleeping With The Light On

by David Unger and Carlos Veléz Aquilera

Davico lives with his family above La Casita — the Little House — in Guatemala City in the early 1950s. But it's not just a little house. It's also the family restaurant! The restaurant provides plenty of distraction and adventure for Davico and his older brother, Felipe. The mean cook, Augusto, and the always-late waiter, Otto, love to play tricks on Davico. There's a huge oven that Felipe knows how to light — if he can only reach the box of matches above the stove.

Articles

NPR, *New Groups Aim To Get More Latinx Stories To Young Readers:*

- <https://www.npr.org/2020/09/28/916980190/new-groups-aim-to-get-more-latinx-stories-to-young-readers>

Videos

What does it mean to be Mexican-American?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXrvQWUWJBA>

Sana sana:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Gff-c8Rcac>

Keeping Tradition Alive: Ballet Folklórico

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rouXWIE7Upc>

Miguel sings to Mamá Coco

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vgpBt5STusE>

Music

- Linda Ronstadt, Los laureles
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTUESfwdOOE>
- Los Panchos, Las mañanitas
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WQ3U8bc5fDs>
- Proud Corazón, Pixar Coco
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bolchjz1RQg>
- Como La Flor, Selena
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FwZTgDjRLMo>