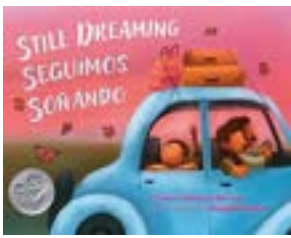
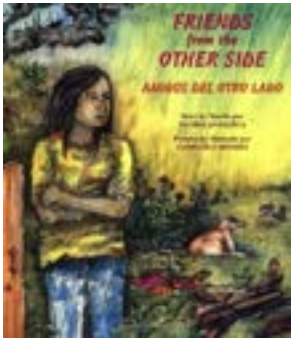
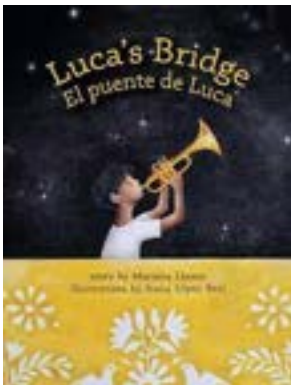
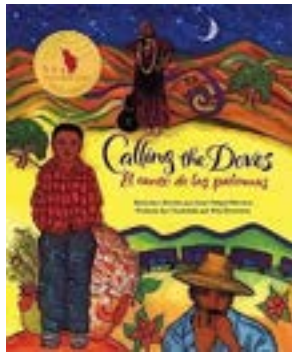


## Text Set 7: US/México Borderlands

**Overview:** The border between the United States and Mexico is a captivating tapestry that weaves together diverse cultures, enchanting languages, mouthwatering culinary traditions, and the embodiment of the American Dream. Here, where two worlds collide and intertwine, a mesmerizing fusion emerges captivating the senses and the heart. In this vibrant tapestry, languages intertwine like threads, with Spanish and English effortlessly coexisting, creating a harmonious symphony of words and worlds. This text set features stories that depict experiences of living in the US/México borderlands and the crossing of the US/México border.

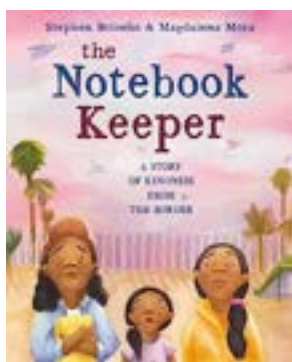
Picturebooks & Graphic Novels	
	<p><b><i>Still Dreaming</i></b></p> <p>by Claudia Martinez and Magdalena Mora</p> <p>In the first children's book to describe the long-forgotten chapter of US history known as Mexican Repatriation, a family leaves their home to avoid being separated by the government.</p>
	<p><b><i>Amigos del Otro Lado/ Friends from the Other Side</i></b></p> <p>By: Gloria Anzaldúa</p> <p>Prietita, a brave young Mexican American girl, defends Joaquín from the neighborhood kids who taunt him with shouts of "mojado" or "wetback." But what can she do to protect Joaquín and his mother from the Border Patrol as the van cruises slowly up the street toward their hiding place?</p>
	<p><b><i>Luca's Bridge/ El Puente de Lucha</i></b></p> <p>by Mariana Llanos and Anna Lopez Real</p> <p>Luca, his brother Paco, and their parents head across the border to México where his parents were born. Luca doesn't understand why he must leave the only home he's ever known, his friends, and his school. He struggles through lonely and disorienting times and leans on music, memory, and familial love for support.</p>



***Calling the Doves/ El Canto de las Palomas***

by Juan Felipe Herrera and Elly Simmons

Poet Juan Felipe Herrera's bilingual memoir paints a vivid picture of his migrant farmworker childhood. His rich, evocative prose re-creates the joy of eating under the open sky, celebrating at a fiesta with other farm families, and listening to his mother singing Mexican songs and his father calling the doves.



***The Notebook Keeper***

by Stephen Brisino and Magdalena Mora

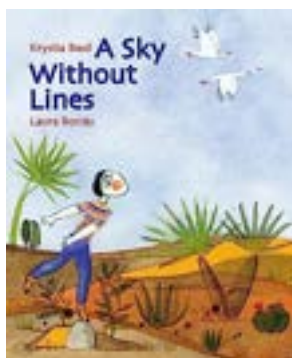
In this moving picturebook, Noemi and Mama flee their home in México, and head for the US border. There, they look for "The Notebook Keeper"-- the person in charge of a ledger for those waiting to cross, and add their names to the book.



***Border Crossings***

By Sneed B. Collard and Howard Gray



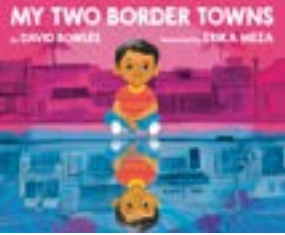

Explore the beauty and biodiversity of the border area and see how the Wall impacts plants and animals. As two endangered ocelots attempt to cross the border, they face obstacles that drive home the catastrophic effects of the Wall--and the many benefits of keeping the border barrier-free.



***A Sky Without Lines***

By: Krystia Basil


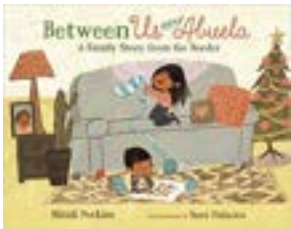
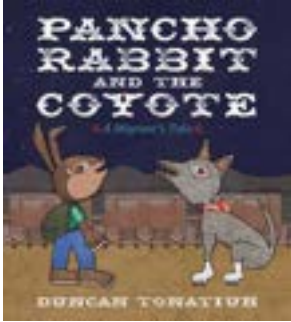

Arturo loves to look at maps and the lines where different countries meet--as if greeting each other with a big hug. But his mother tells him these lines have a different purpose--to keep people from moving freely across the land. Arturo and his mother are separated from his father and his brother Antonio by one of these lines. Will he ever see his brother again?




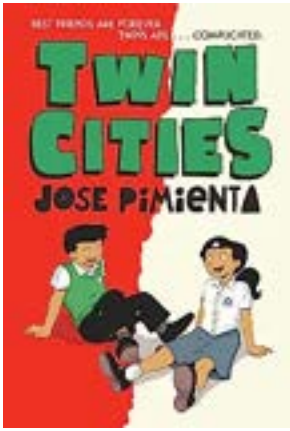
	<p><b><i>Somos Como las Nubes/ We Are Like the Clouds</i></b></p> <p>By: Jorge Argueta &amp; Alfonso Ruano (Illus.)</p> <p>Poems of the lives of children fleeing their homes in Central America to seek refuge in the U.S. Bilingual</p>
	<p><b><i>Escucha Mi Voz - The Testimonies of Children Detained at the Border/ Hear My Voice</i></b></p> <p>By: Warren Binford &amp; 17 Illustrators</p> <p>First-person accounts from 61 migrant children, ages 5-17, based on interviews with children in detention centers on the border between the U.S. and México. Bilingual.</p>
	<p><b><i>My Two Border Towns</i></b></p> <p>By: David Bowles &amp; Erika Meza (Illus.)</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><b><i>Two White Rabbits</i></b></p> <p>By: Jairo Buitrago &amp; Rafael Yockteng (Illus.)</p> <p>A young girl and her father travel by foot through México toward the border with the U.S.</p>

	<p><b><i>Mama's Nightingale: A Story of Immigration and Separation</i></b></p> <p>By: Edwidge Danticat</p> <p>Saya takes action for her mother who is in a US detention center as an undocumented Haitian immigrant.</p>
	<p><b><i>Mango Moon</i></b></p> <p>By: Diane De Anda</p> <p>A family faces many challenges when a father is taken to a detention center to face deportation to México.</p>
	<p><b><i>Home at Last</i></b></p> <p>By: Susan M. Elya &amp; Felipe Davalos (Illus.)</p> <p>Ana helps her mother adjust to their move from México to the U.S. and helps her learn English.</p>
	<p><b><i>A Journey Towards Hope</i></b></p> <p>By: Victor Hinojosa &amp; Susan Guevara (Illus.)</p> <p>The paths of four unaccompanied children from Central America through México toward the U.S., and their reasons for their perilous journeys.</p>

	<p><b><i>Mamá the Alien/ Mamá la Extraterrestre</i></b></p> <p>By: Rene Colato Lainez &amp; Laura Lacamara (Illus.)</p> <p>A young girl misunderstands the meaning of the word alien on her Latinx mother's immigration card.</p>
	<p><b><i>Migrant</i></b></p> <p>By: Jose Manuel Mateo</p> <p>Accordion frieze of a Mexican boy's journey to the U.S. with his family, in the style of a Mayan codex. Bilingual.</p>
	<p><b><i>La Frontera: El Viaje Con Papá/ My Journey Papa</i></b></p> <p>By: Deborah Mills, Alfred Alva, Claudia Navarro</p> <p>A young boy and his father journey from México to Texas to find a new life. They'll need all the resilience and courage they can muster to safely cross the border - la frontera - and to make a home for themselves in a new land.</p>
	<p><b><i>Bright Star</i></b></p> <p>By: Yuyi Morales</p> <p>This is the story of a fawn making her way through a border landscape teeming with flora and fauna native to the region.</p>



	<p><b><i>Dreamers</i></b></p> <p>By: Yuyi Morales</p> <p>A memoir on the power of story and the gifts that migrants bring with them when they leave their homes.</p>
	<p><b><i>Between Us and Abuela: A Family Story from the Border</i></b></p> <p>By: Mitali Perkins and Sara Palacios (Illus.)</p> <p>Maria is traveling with her mother and younger brother, Juan, to visit their grandmother on the border of California and México. For the few minutes they can share together along the fence, Maria and her brother plan to exchange stories and Christmas gifts with the grandmother they haven't seen in years.</p>
	<p><b><i>Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote</i></b></p> <p>By: Duncan Tonatiuh</p> <p>Pancho Rabbit goes on a dangerous trek in search of his father in El Norte, guided by a coyote.</p>
	<p><b><i>Migrant</i></b></p> <p>By: Maxine Trottier &amp; Isabelle Arsenault (Illus.)</p> <p>Anna is the child of Mennonites from México, who have come north to harvest fruit and vegetables. Sometimes she feels like a bird, flying north in the spring and south in the fall, sometimes like a jackrabbit in an abandoned burrow, since her family occupies an empty farmhouse near the fields, sometimes like a kitten, as she shares a bed with her sisters . . .</p>

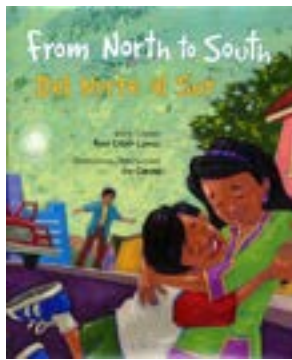
	<p><b><i>Butterflies on Carmen Street/ Mariposas en La Calle Carmen</i></b>        By: Monica Brown, illustrated by April Ward</p> <p>A beautiful story about home, this picturebook follows Julianita who is learning all about the monarch butterfly at school with her friends and teacher. She watches her butterfly begin its life as a caterpillar to its chrysalis and finally released to fly.</p> <p>Youtube Read Aloud Link:</p> <p> Butterflies on Carmen Street book movie  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XhJ8ZnZTM-c">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XhJ8ZnZTM-c</a></p>
	<p><b><i>My Town, Mi Pueblo</i></b>        by Nicholas Solis, Luisa Uribe</p> <p>Two cousins live in two towns, separated by a river. But there is also a bigger divide—the US–México border—which means they live in different countries with different languages but many shared connections.</p>
	<p><b><i>Twin Cities</i></b>        by Jose Pimienta</p> <p>Being twins means having a best friend forever . . . But when one goes to middle school in México and the other across the border in California, can that bond withstand the distance? Luis Fernando is staying local in Mexicali, México, while Luisa Teresa crosses the border every day so she can go to a private school in Calexico, California.</p>



***Los Monstruos # 1: Felice and the Wailing Woman***

by Diana López

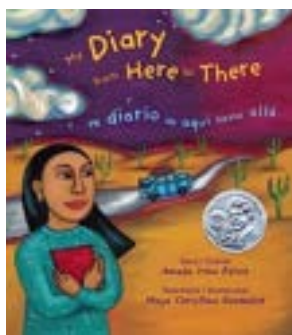
When Felice learns that she's the daughter of La Llorona, she catches a ride to the magical town of Tres Leches, where her mother is said to be haunting the river. Growing up with her uncle Clem in Corpus Christi, Felice knew that she had been rescued from drowning—it's where her intense fear of water comes from—but she had no idea her mother remained trapped between worlds, looking for her.



***From North to South / Del Norte al Sur***

by René Laínez (Author), Joe Cepeda (Illustrator)

Near the border, the cars began to move very slowly. “Papá, go fast. I want to see Mamá,” I said. José loves helping Mamá in the garden outside their home in California. But when Mamá is sent back to México for not having proper papers, José and his Papá face an uncertain future.

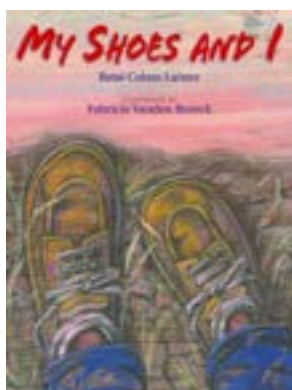


***My Diary From Here to There / Mi diario de aquí hasta allá***

by Amada Irma Perez (Author), Maya Christina Gonzalez (Illustrator)

One night, Amada overhears her parents whisper about moving from México to Los Angeles, where greater opportunity awaits. As she and her family make the journey north, Amada records her fears, hopes, and dreams for their new life in her diary.

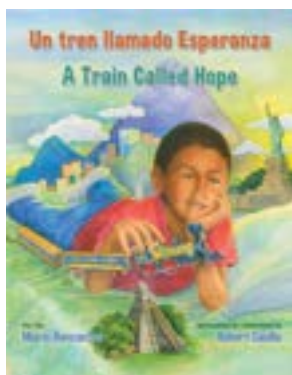




***My Shoes and I***

by Rene Colato Lainez (Author), Fabricio Vanden Broeck (Illustrator)

A timely and inspiring story. Mario is leaving his home in El Salvador. With his father by his side, he is going north to join his mother, who lives in the United States. She has sent Mario a new pair of shoes. He will need good shoes because the journey north will be long and hard.



***Un tren llamado Esperanza / A Train Called Hope***

by Mario Bencastro (Author), Robert Casilla (Illustrator)

In this bilingual picture book, a boy remembers his first present, "a little train crossing / the mountain of my pillow / over a valley on my bed." There's even a girl who looks like his sister waving happily from the window! Years later, after his parents go far away in search of work and a better future, the boy rides in a real train to join his family.

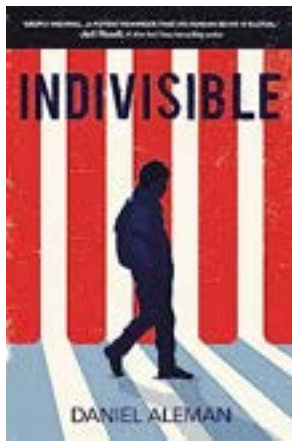


***Until Someone Listens***

By Estela Juarez, Lissette Norman and Teresa Martinez

Estela was only 8 when her mother was deported across the border to México. Desperately missing her mother, she took action, writing letters to everyone, including the president, hoping that someone would listen. Also a Spanish ed. True story.

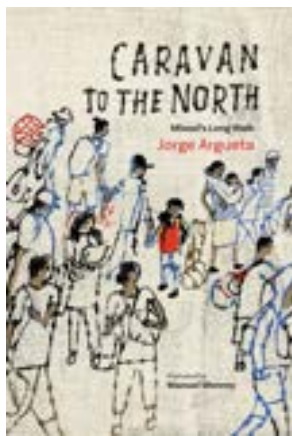
## Novels



### *Indivisible*

by Daniel Aleman

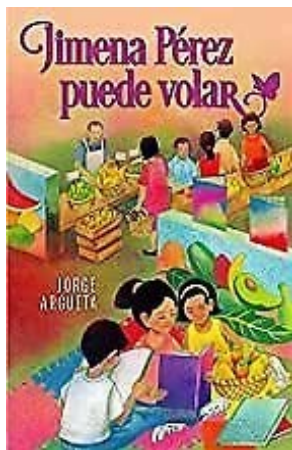
Mateo Garcia and his sister have been taught to fear one word for as long as they can remember: deportation. The fear their undocumented immigrant parents could be sent back to México starts to fade. Ma and Pa have been in the US for so long, they have American-born children, and they're hard workers and good neighbors. But then the nightmare comes true.



### *Caravan to the North: Misael's Long Walk*

By: Jorge Argueta & Illus. by Manuel Monroy

A Salvadoran boy and his family join a caravan heading north, including why they leave and their sadness at having to leave.



### *Jimena Pérez Puedes Volar/ Jimena Pérez Can Fly*

By: Jorge Argueta

A mother and child forced to flee El Salvador are separated at the U.S. border and imprisoned.



***They Call Me Güero: A Border Kids Poems***

By: David Bowles

Twelve-year-old Güero is Mexican American, at home with Spanish or English and on both sides of the river. He's starting 7th grade with a woke English teacher who knows how to make poetry cool



***They Call Her Fregona (Sequel to They Call me Guero) A Border Kids Poems***

By: David Bowles

Güero's life becomes extra busy as he balances new band practices with his old crew and being Joanna Padilla's boyfriend. They call her "fregona" because she's tough, always sticking up for her family and keeping the school bully in check. But then her father is deported.



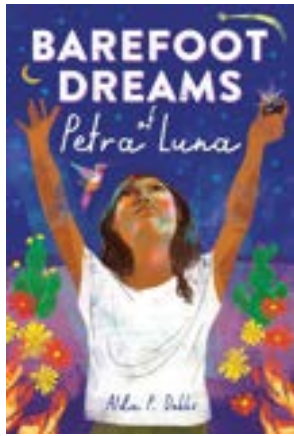
***Efren Divided***

By: Ernesto Cisneros

When Efren's mother is deported, he must care for his young siblings, taking on many responsibilities. Unsure of who to trust, he is supported by the kindness of the Latinx community.

	<p><b><i>The Only Road</i></b></p> <p>By: Alexandra Diaz</p> <p>Jaime is sitting on his bed drawing when he hears a scream, instantly knowing his cousin is dead. Everyone in Jaime’s small town in Guatemala knows someone who has been killed by the Alphas, a powerful gang known for violence and drug trafficking. Anyone who refuses to work for them is hurt or killed and Jaime fears that he is next.</p>
	<p><b><i>The Crossroads</i></b></p> <p>By: Alexandra Diaz</p> <p>After crossing México into the US, Jaime thinks the worst is over. Starting a new school can’t be that bad. Except it is, and not just because he can barely speak English and struggles to find friends. Jaime’s real home is with his parents, <i>abuela</i>, and the rest of the family in Guatemala; not here where cacti and cattle outnumber people, where he can no longer be himself.</p>
	<p><b><i>Santiago's Road Home</i></b></p> <p>By: Alexandra Diaz</p> <p>Fleeing abusive relatives and extreme poverty in México, Santiago’s harrowing journey leads to a detention camp at the U.S. border and an uncertain future.</p>

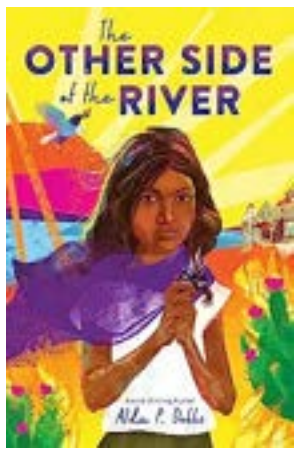




***Barefoot Dreams of Petra Luna***

By: Alda P. Dobbs

It is 1913, and twelve-year-old Petra Luna's mama has died while the Revolution rages in México. Before her papa is dragged away by soldiers, Petra vows to him that she will care for the family she has left until they can be reunited. They flee north through the unforgiving desert as their town burns, searching for safe harbor in a world that offers none.



***The Other Side of the River***

By: Alda P. Dobbs

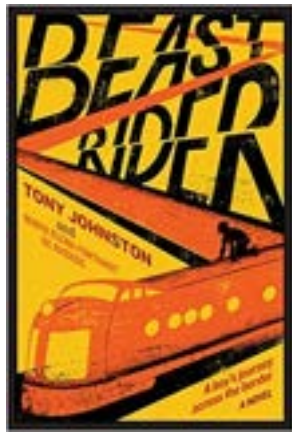
Petra Luna is in the US, having escaped the Mexican Revolution and the terror of the Federales. Now that they are safe, Petra and her family can begin again, in this country that promises so much. Still, twelve-year-old Petra knows that her abuelita, little sister, and baby brother depend on her to survive.



***La Línea***

By: Ann Jaramillo

Miguel and his sister leave their Mexican village in a dangerous journey across the desert and border.



***Beast Rider: A Boy's Journey Beyond the Border \****

By: Tony Johnston

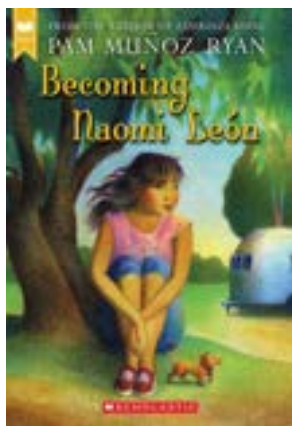
A boy must travel on a dangerous trek from México to Los Angeles to reunite with his brother.



***Esperanza Rising***

By: Pam Muñoz Ryan

Esperanza thought she'd always live a privileged life on her family's ranch in México. She'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home filled with servants, and Mama, Papa, and Abuelita to care for her. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California and settle in a Mexican farm labor camp. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard work, financial struggles brought on by the Great Depression, or lack of acceptance she now faces.



***Becoming Naomi León***

By: Pam Muñoz Ryan

Naomi Soledad León Outlaw has had a lot to contend with in her young life, but according to Gram's self-prophecies, most problems can be overcome with positive thinking. Life with Gram and her little brother, Owen, is happy until her mother shows up wanting to take Owen and Naomi's only chance to save him is to find the father she has never known in México.



***Mañanaland***

By: Pam Muñoz Ryan

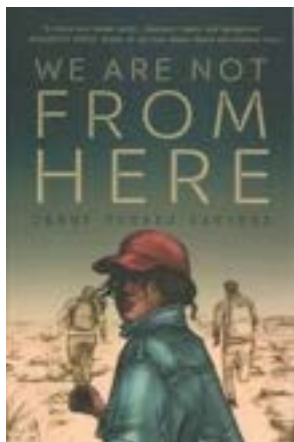
When Max uncovers a buried family secret--involving an underground network of guardians who lead people fleeing a neighboring country to safety--he decides to seek answers on his own. With a treasured compass, a mysterious stone rubbing, and Buelo's legend as his only guides, he sets out on a perilous quest to discover if he is true of heart and what the future holds.



***Land of the Cranes***

By: Aida Salazar

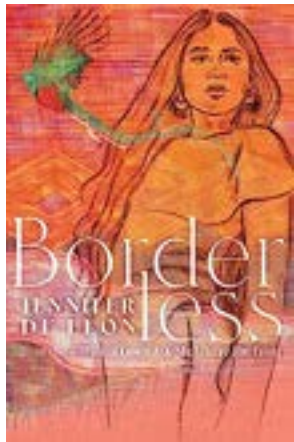
Betita's father is arrested by Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) and deported to México. Betita and her pregnant mother are left behind, but soon they too are detained and must learn to survive in a family detention camp outside of Los Angeles. Even in cruel and inhumane conditions, Betita finds heart in her own poetry and in the community she and her mother find in the camp.



***We Are Not From Here***

By: Jenny Torres Sanchez

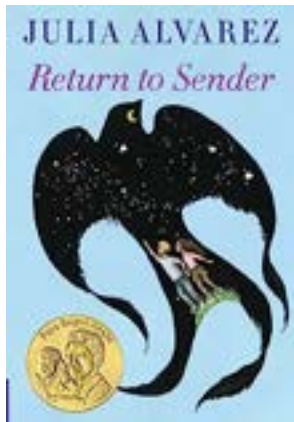
Three Guatemalan teens run from violence in a desperate journey through México to reach the U.S. border.



***Borderless***

by Jennifer De Leon

For seventeen-year-old Maya, trashion is her passion, and her talent for making clothing out of unusual objects lands her a scholarship to Guatemala City's prestigious design school. Mamá is her biggest supporter, taking on extra jobs to pay for what the scholarship doesn't cover. But then gang violence interferes with her life and Maya is forced to run for her life.

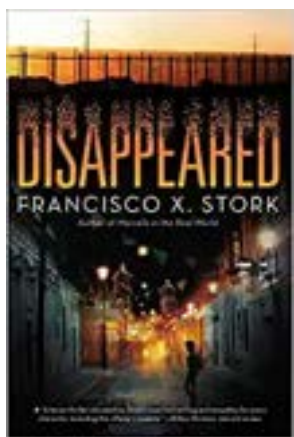


***Return to Sender***

by Julia Alvarez

After Tyler's father is injured in a tractor accident, his family is forced to hire migrant Mexican workers to help save their Vermont farm from foreclosure. Tyler isn't sure what to make of these workers. Are they undocumented?

**Novels About the Border Set in México**



***Disappeared***

By: Francisco Stork

A gripping novel about survival, loss, and friendship, this novel follows various characters as they try to run away from the death threats and dangerous ventures in México. Their only option is to get to the U.S. border to make it for safety. Time is ticking and they need to leave right away before another bad thing happens.

Youtube Summary/Book Review Link:

 [Francisco X. Stork's DISAPPEARED | Book Review 2019](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkHzp-owwVU)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkHzp-owwVU>





### ***Summer of the Mariposas***

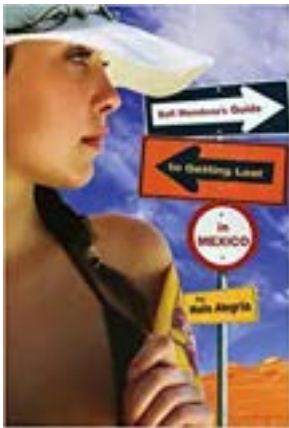
By: Guadalupe Garcia McCall

When Odilia and her four sisters are swimming they discover a dead body. They are near the border and believe the body must have a connection to México. Eager to deliver the body back to its loved ones, the girls cross the border from Texas to México safely. But, it is the journey back to Texas that makes it difficult to get back home.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 "Summer of the Mariposas" Book Talk

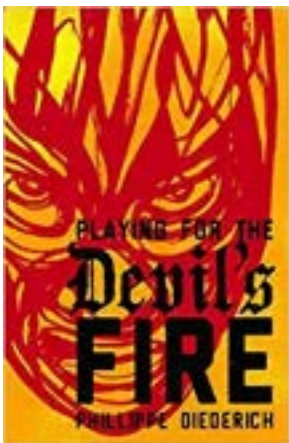
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rLriK1DChNo>



### ***Sofi Mendoza's Guide to Getting Lost in México***

By: Malin Alegria

Sofi was born in México but has been living in California all her life. She takes a trip to Tijuana, but is denied entry back into the US due to her citizenship status. Waiting at her relatives' home, she learns more about her native land and its people, but also lives with uncertainty of being able to return to her family.

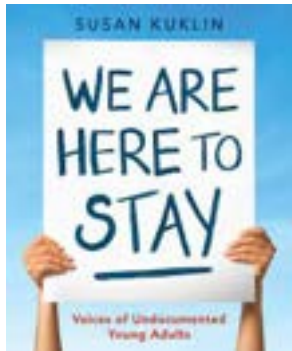


### ***Playing for the Devil's Fire***

By: Phillippe Diederich

Boli is thirteen years old and he enjoys his life with his friends, but suddenly he notices things changing around him, like boys driving cars with girls and people missing, including his parents. Eager to find his parents, Boli comes across a luchador who is supposed to be tough and strong, only to find that the luchador is hungry and only interested in finding food.

## Non-Fiction



### *We Are Here to Stay: Voices of Undocumented Young Adults*

By: Susan Kuklin

Nine young adults share their stories of living undocumented in America.



### *The Other Side: Stories of Central America Teen Refugees Who Dream of Crossing the Border*

By: Juan Pablo Villalobos

Collection of first hand narratives stories from teens forced to flee from Central America to the U.S.

## Multimodal

### • Articles

- [Before the Wall: Life Along the U.S.-México Border](#)
- [The Border Wall Has Been 'Absolutely Devastating' for People and Wildlife](#)
- [Endangered Earth: Trump's Wall Threatens 93 Species](#)
- [6 ways the border wall could disrupt the environment Trump's plan to build a wall from](#)

### • Videos

- [New York Times Video - Embed Player](#)
- <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/embedded-video/mmvo64879685584>
- [Jaguars and Border Walls Don't Mix](#)

### • Video Poem

- ["The Borders Are Fluid Within Us" by Dan Vera | A Visual Poem](#)

- Music

- [Imagine \(Remastered 2010\)](#)

## Maps





## Images





