



Bestselling Titles for Teens and Tweens

Piñata Books Are Full of Surprises!



Dedicated to the production of children's literature that authentically and realistically portrays themes, characters and customs unique to US Hispanic culture

Bestselling English Titles for Ages 11+

You Don't Have a Clue Latino Mystery Stories for Teens

Edited by Sarah Cortez
Introduction by James Blasingame

Set in schools and communities across the U.S., the teenage protagonists in these stories reflect the breadth and diversity of the Latino authors included in this innovative volume.

"A consistent, well-crafted collection." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"This excellent collection gives faces to Latino teens in a most original way." —*Booklist* (starred review)

2011, ISBN: 978-1-55885-692-9, Trade paperback, 320 pages, \$16.95
AR Quiz #144734, ATOS EN: 5.1, ATOS IL: UG

Islands Apart Becoming Dominican American

Jasminne Mendez

Finalist, Texas Institute of Writers' Jean Flynn Award for Best Young Adult Book; Named a 2023 Américas Award Commended Title

In this memoir for teens about growing up Afro Latina in the Deep South, Mendez writes about feeling torn between her Dominican, Spanish-speaking culture at home and the American, English-speaking one around her.

"A strong collection of intimate essays...from an Afro-Latina perspective." —*Kirkus Reviews*

2022, ISBN: 978-1-55885-944-9, Trade paperback, 70 pages, \$14.95
AR Quiz #35010, ATOS EN: 5.1, ATOS IL: MG, LEXILE: 1010L

Nilda

Nicholasa Mohr
Foreword by Alma Flor Ada

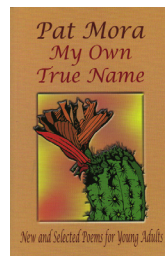
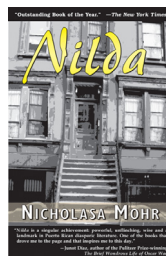
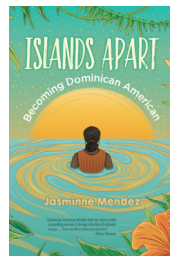
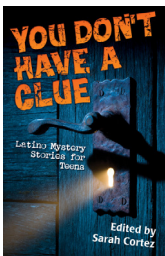
Named Outstanding Book of the Year by *The New York Times Book Review*; Best Book of 1973 by the American Library Association; Recipient, Jane Addam's Children's Book Award, 1974

"Nilda is a singular achievement: powerful, unflinching, wise and a landmark in Puerto Rican diasporic literatures. One of the books that drove me to the page and that inspires me to this day."

—Junot Díaz, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*

"Sad, funny, fascinating and honest, it will appeal to adults as well as children." —*The New York Times Book Review*

2011, ISBN: 978-1-55885-696-7, Trade paperback, 259 pages, \$12.95
AR Quiz #35021, ATOS EN: 4.5, ATOS IL: MG, LEXILE: 660L



My Own True Name New and Selected Poems for Young Adults, 1984–1999

Pat Mora
Line drawings by Anthony Accardo

Named to *The New York Public Library's Books for the Teen Age 2001* and the *Texas Library Association's 2000–2001 TAYSHAS High School Reading List*

Symbolic poems grouped into three sections: "Blooms," "Thorns" and "Roots."

"The rich, symbolic imagery, raw emotion and honesty will appeal to mature teens." —*Booklist*

"She has chosen poems with themes that are accessible to, yet challenging for teens." —*School Library Journal*

2000, ISBN: 978-1-55885-292-1, Trade paperback, 96 pages, \$11.95
AR Quiz #47265, ATOS EN: 5.9, ATOS IL: UG

A Good Long Way

René Saldaña, Jr.

Finalist, Texas Institute of Letters Award-Young Adult Book; Honor Book, 2011 Paterson Prize for Books for Young People; Named to the Texas Library Association's 2012 TAYSHAS High School Reading List; Finalist, 2011 PEN Center USA Literary Award for YA Literature

"A poignant, brief novel that leaves a lasting impression, *A Good Long Way* is a meaningful read for teens by an author with a deep understanding of the struggles and rewards of growing up."

"[This] is an absorbing narrative of anger, guilt, sorrow and hope. The intense fights will grab readers, and so will the friendship and love. A great choice for readers' theater." —*Booklist*

2010, ISBN: 978-1-55885-607-3, Trade paperback, 128 pages, \$10.95
AR Quiz #142332, ATOS EN: 5, ATOS IL: UG, LEXILE: 780L

Secrets of the Casa Rosada

Alex Temblador

Named to *Kirkus Reviews' Best Books of 2018*; Winner, 2019 NACCS Tejas Foco Young Adult Fiction Award; Named to the TLA's TAYSHAS Reading List

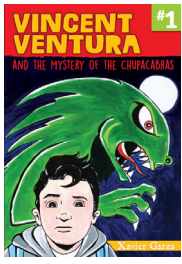
"A magical story about a girl who awakens to her potential when her vagabond mother abandons her at her grandmother's home in Laredo, Texas. A suspenseful and fascinating glimpse into a Mexican-American world."

—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

2018, ISBN: 978-1-55885-870-1, Trade paperback, 238 pages, \$12.95, LEXILE: 730L

Bestselling Bilingual Series for Intermediate Readers

Monster Fighter Mystery / Serie Exterminador de monstruos by Xavier Garza



1

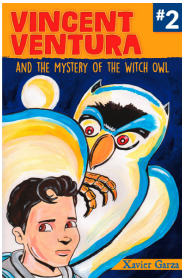
Vincent Ventura and the Mystery of the Chupacabras Vincent Ventura y el misterio del chupacabras

Spanish translation by Gabriela Baeza Ventura

When stray dogs start vanishing from the neighborhood, Vincent's dad thinks that maybe the Animal Control Department is finally doing its job. But then people's pets start to go missing, too. The disappearances started when Mr. Calaveras moved into the house at 666 Duende Street, which is rumored to be haunted—and Vincent's theory is that the old man is behind the rash of missing dogs. In fact, Vincent is sure he's a monster, a blood-sucking beast known as el chupacabras!

"Garza delves into Spanish folklore and adds action, horror and mystery to create a wonderfully exciting book. This illustrated series-starter is formatted as a bilingual flipbook. The descriptive Spanish and high vocabulary make it a strong addition to both elementary and middle school mystery sections." —Booklist

2018, ISBN: 978-1-55885-869-5, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 105 pages, \$9.95, LEXILE: 700L/660L(SP)



2

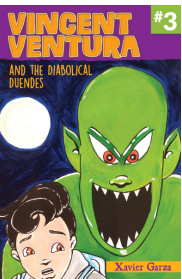
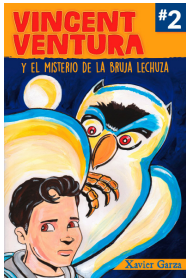
Vincent Ventura and the Mystery of the Witch Owl Vincent Ventura y el misterio de la bruja lechuza

Spanish translation by Gabriela Baeza Ventura

Vincent sees three enormous white owls in the tree outside 666 Duende Street one night, and is shocked to see them land on the ground as women dressed in black. In school he meets the new neighbor, Zulema Ortiz, who is obsessed with drawing owls and has the unusual habit of turning her entire head to look at things, just like owls do. She tells him she and her father are from a city in Mexico known as the witchcraft capital of the world—further convincing him there are witch owls roosting in nearby trees!

"This fun, illustrated Spanish/English short chapter book has enough Mexican folklore and American teen angst to keep middle grade and reluctant readers interested in the otherworldly adventures of the monster fighter extraordinaire." —School Library Journal

2018, ISBN: 978-1-55885-890-9, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 144 pages, \$9.95, LEXILE: 700L/680L(SP)



3

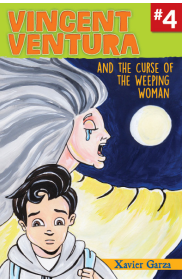
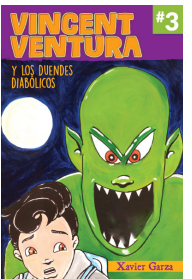
Vincent Ventura and the Diabolical Duendes Vincent Ventura y los duendes diabólicos

Spanish translation by Gabriela Baeza Ventura

Another family has moved into the house across from Vincent Ventura's, including a boy who constantly argues with himself. "You can't tell me what to do," Vincent hears him say, but there's no one around. Who could he be talking to? When Vincent sees a green creature with glowing red eyes and needle-sharp teeth terrorize the boy into vandalizing a neighbor's car, he knows there is another monster mystery to solve!

"Book 3 in Garza's Monster Fighter Mystery series adds a little psychological horror to Vincent's newest adventure ... A case of light-hearted fun during the witching hour." —Kirkus Reviews

2020, ISBN: 978-1-55885-909-8, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 112 pages, \$10.95, LEXILE: 690L/640L(SP)



4

Vincent Ventura and the Curse of the Weeping Woman Vincent Ventura y la maldición de La Llorona

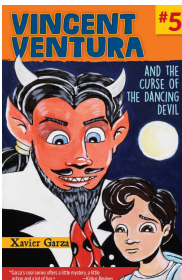
Spanish translation by Damaris Constantino

The new substitute teacher, Ms. Malin Che, has moved into the haunted house, where just the night before, Vincent saw two boys who disappeared and reappeared and a lady in white calling out for them. Are they ghosts? Is the lady in white La Llorona? And how is Ms. Malin Che connected to this new mystery?

"Highly recommended for collections for youth and for readers of retellings, adventure and fantasy." —School Library Journal

"Multifaceted portrayals of legendary spirits add depth to a narrative that is enhanced by dramatic black-and-white art... Nuanced folklore shines in this thrilling beginning chapter book." —Kirkus Reviews

2021, ISBN: 978-1-55885-932-6, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 155 pages, \$10.95, LEXILE: 740L/670L(SP)



5

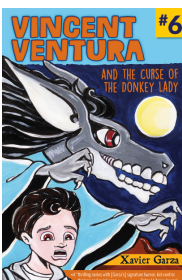
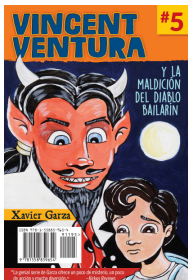
Vincent Ventura and the Curse of the Dancing Devil Vincent Ventura y la maldición del diablo bailarín

Spanish translation by Alaíde Ventura Medina

In the fifth installment of the Monster Fighter Mystery series, Vincent and his friends fight to save a girl who is the target of an evil being. This exciting book about a dangerous battle—between a seasoned devil and one unsure of her powers, a witch owl and several very determined kids—is sure to thrill young readers!

"Garza successfully continues his thrilling series with his signature humor, kid-centric themes and quick pace. His illustrations also bring home the scary aspects of the narrative while making the novel more accessible. It will keep readers intrigued for the next entry. Each of the volumes stand alone, but familiarity with the previous books adds to the enjoyment." —School Library Journal

2023, ISBN: 978-1-55885-965-4, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 152 pages, \$11.95, LEXILE: 690L/630L(SP)



6

Vincent Ventura and the Curse of the Donkey Lady Vincent Ventura y la maldición de la Mujer Burro

Spanish translation by Alaíde Ventura Medina

While on the bus to his late mom's village of Nagual, Mexico, Vincent sees a woman with a cadaverous donkey's head and glowing red eyes that burn like fire—the Donkey Lady, who his cousins tell him hasn't been seen in years. Why has she come back now? The exciting sixth Monster Fighter Mystery culminates in a convergence of supernatural beings—the demonic Donkey Lady, *curanderos* and *naguales*—all fighting in a life-or-death battle!

2024, ISBN: 978-1-55885-996-8, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 168 pages, \$11.95



Bestselling Bilingual Series for Intermediate Readers

The Mickey Rangel Mystery Series / Colección Mickey Rangel, detective privado by René Saldaña Jr.

1

The Case of the Pen Gone Missing El caso de la pluma perdida

Spanish translation by Carolina Villarroel

Named to the 2010-2011 Tejas Star Reading List

Toots, the prettiest girl in the fifth grade, never talks to Mickey, not even when they're assigned to work together on a class project. But Toots has come to Mickey because she's in trouble, and he's a detective. The real deal. He even has a badge and a certificate after completing an online course two years ago.

"You have to believe me, Mickey. I didn't take that pen." When Toots shines her big green eyes on him and insists repeatedly that she's innocent, Mickey's intuition tells him to run fast in the opposite direction. But he's a sucker for a pretty girl, so he takes on the case of the missing pen. As he begins his investigation, though, all the clues point to Toots and her newly ex-boyfriend as the primary suspects.

"[The] well-crafted translation into Spanish maintains the suspense and humor of the original English version, narrated by Mickey in fine, hardboiled style." —Kirkus Reviews

2009, ISBN: 978-1-55885-555-7, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 80 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #134033, ATOS EN: 4.7, ATOS SP: 4.9, ATOS IL: MG, LEXILE: 770L/710L(SP)

2

The Lemon Tree Caper La intriga del limonero

Spanish translation by Natalia Rosales-Yeomans

Named to the 2012-2013 Tejas Star Reading List

Mickey Rangel's neighbor, Señorita Andrade, has been robbed of her prize-winning lemons! But who could have stolen them? Was it only a coincidence that Tina had set up a lemonade stand just down the street? With a bowl full of the fruit sitting right out front?!? Or could it have been someone trying to sabotage Señorita Andrade's entry in the upcoming Lemon Festival? "I'll get to the bottom of this, ma'am. Mickey Rangel is on the case."

"This brisk novella in English and Spanish offers two nifty whodunits for young mystery lovers." —Kirkus Reviews

2011, ISBN: 978-1-55885-709-4, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 96 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #150745, ATOS EN: 5.5, ATOS SP: 5.8, ATOS IL: MG, LEXILE: 950L/910L(SP)

3

The Mystery of the Mischievous Marker El misterio del malvado marcador

Spanish translation by Carolina Villarroel

There's been a recent rash of graffiti on school grounds, and Principal Abrego has called Mickey Rangel to her office. He's initially horrified that she might think he's involved, but it turns out she needs his help! She wants him to unmask the Mischievous Marker, the person writing messages all over the school's walls.

In the third book of the Mickey Rangel Mystery series for intermediate readers, author and educator René Saldaña Jr. has once again crafted an appealing book for kids, and his smart, wise-cracking protagonist will appeal to even the most reluctant readers.

"Prose is peppy, and [the] mystery, while quickly solved, hammers home a solid grammar lesson as a bonus. Though he's no teacher's pet, Mickey's smarts make him a welcome protagonist." —Kirkus Reviews

2013, ISBN: 978-1-55885-776-6, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 64 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #163966, ATOS EN: 4.9, ATOS SP: 4.5, ATOS IL: MG, LEXILE: 760L/730L(SP)

4

A Mystery Bigger than Big Un misterio más grande que grandísimo

Spanish translation by Carolina Villarroel

Rumors are flying about Natalia, the new girl in school. Detective extraordinaire Mickey knows all the stories are bogus, but when his arch rival Bucho challenges him for the answer, he vows to crack the case. His efforts to discover the girl's secret come up empty, until he overhears a conversation. Is Natalia really one of those undocumented children he has heard about on the news? Did she really travel all the way from Guatemala by herself? Why would she leave her family? And why would her parents let her go?

"Young detective Mickey Rangel prides himself on his ability to find clues and solve mysteries, but in this title, he comes face-to-face with a case much larger than any he has ever solved. Accompanied by an excellent Spanish translation, this title is a good introduction to the hardships of immigration for young children, with the trappings of school mystery. VERDICT: Kids will enjoy this solid addition. Recommended."

—School Library Journal

2016, ISBN: 978-1-55885-824-4, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 78 pages, \$9.95
LEXILE: 830L/780L(SP)

5

The Curse of the Bully's Wrath La maldición de la ira del abusón

Spanish translation by Gabriela Baeza Ventura

Unable to understand why Marco is so mean, Mickey is even more dumbfounded when Bucho, the school's resident bully, backs down from the new, short kid. *What drives a bully?* he wonders. Mickey Rangel, kid detective extraordinaire, is on the case!

"Faced with a moral conundrum, Mickey uses his sleuthing skills to find out the best way to handle a bully. By talking to trusted adults and modeling empathy, compassion and forgiveness, Mickey not only solves the mystery but he makes life better for his classmates. Short chapters make this book ideal for reluctant readers and a strong addition to any intermediate collection."

—School Library Journal

"In Mickey Rangel's fifth mystery, like many kids his age, the title character is faced with a new kid in class who is less than welcoming. It's a solid resource for younger kids to learn about how best to tackle a bully and how to find your voice and speak up for not only yourself, but those around you. A welcome return to Mickey's primarily Latinx world."

—Kirkus Reviews

2018, ISBN: 978-1-55885-866-4, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 94 pages, \$9.95
LEXILE: 760L/710L(SP)

6

A Case Is Still a Case Un caso siempre es un caso

Spanish translation by Iván Brave

There's a rumor going around school that Mickey Rangel, detective extraordinaire, has competition! Apparently, Tina has gotten an online license just like Mickey. He can't believe it! Doesn't she know detectives are guys?

But when a pack of baseball cards—a collector's item worth a lot of money—donated to the school's fundraiser is stolen, Principal Abrego wants Mickey and Tina to work together to solve the case. The dynamic duo, she calls them! Mickey is determined to show the girl detective who's who and he expects her to understand that they are not equal partners; she's a rung or two below him. Kids will enjoy sharpening their sleuthing skills while getting a lesson in gender equality in this sixth book in the Mickey Rangel Mystery Series.

2023, ISBN: 978-1-55885-966-1, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 104 pages, \$11.95
LEXILE: 730L/670L(SP)



Bestselling English and Spanish Titles for Ages 11+

Titles in English...

Trino's Choice

Diane Gonzales Bertrand

Named to the 2001-2002 Lone Star Reading List; Named "Best Book of the Year" in the Young Adult category by Foreword Reviews; Recipient of the Austin Writers' League's Teddy Award for Best Children's Book; Named Best Young Adult Fiction by the Latino Literary Hall of Fame

Trino Olivares must decide which choices will impress his friends—and which choices are the best for him.

1999, ISBN: 978-1-55885-268-6, Trade paperback, 128 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #35007, ATOS EN: 4.9, ATOS IL: MG, LEXILE: 780L

Trino's Time

Diane Gonzales Bertrand

Named to The New York Public Library's Books for the Teen Age 2002 and the Latino Literary Hall of Fame for Best Young Adult Fiction

"The story has high interest and a quick pace with realistic dialogue including suitably placed Spanish words and phrases. Characters are likable and carefully drawn ... a well-written sequel." —*School Library Journal*

2001, ISBN: 978-1-55885-317-1, Trade paperback, 176 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #54653, ATOS EN: 4.8, ATOS IL: UG, LEXILE: 710L

The Year of Our Revolution

Judith Ortiz Cofer

Recipient, 1999 Paterson Prize for Books for Young People; Named to The New York Public Library's Books for the Teen Age 1999

In a work suitable for mature teen readers, Ortiz Cofer crystallizes what its protagonist calls "the worst year in the history of parents and children."

"Sophisticated and lyrical ... a wonderful reading experience for literate teens able to savor the author's use of language." —*Booklist*

"For mature teenagers there is wisdom aplenty in this radiant collection." —*Publishers Weekly*

1998, ISBN: 978-1-55885-224-2, Clothbound, 116 pages, \$16.95

Silent Dancing

A Partial Remembrance of a Puerto Rican Childhood

Judith Ortiz Cofer

Named to The New York Public Library's Books for the Teen Age 1991; Recipient of a PEN citation, the Martha Albrand Award for Non-Fiction and a Pushcart Prize

A personal narrative made up of the author's recollections of the bilingual-bicultural childhood that forged her personality as a writer and artist.

1991, ISBN: 978-1-55885-015-6, Trade paperback, 168 pages, \$12.95
AR Quiz #20913, ATOS EN: 7.2, ATOS IL: UG

Walking Stars

Victor Villaseñor

Selected as a Commended Title in the 1994 Américas Children's and Young Adult Literature Award

"These stories ... are spellbinding and diverse. *Walking Stars* is an exquisite example of quality literature that helps explain diverse cultures and beliefs while unifying us all within the human family." —*Booklist*

"Legend and fact coexist happily in this spiritually rich collection of stories ... this literary collage is both original and moving." —*Publishers Weekly*

2003, ISBN: 978-1-55885-394-2, Trade paperback, 208 pages, \$10.95
AR Quiz #35002, ATOS EN: 5.6, ATOS IL: UG, LEXILE: 980L

...and in Spanish

El dilema de Trino

Diane Gonzales Bertrand

Spanish translation by Julia Mercedes Castilla

First Spanish-language edition of an award-winning book for young adults.

"A dramatic and realistic contemporary novel in the tradition of Frank Bonham's *Durango Street* and Walter Dean Myers' *Scorpions*." —*Booklist*

2005, ISBN: 978-1-55885-458-1, Trade paperback, 136 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #35007, ATOS SP: 4.7, ATOS IL: MG, LEXILE: 760L

El momento de Trino

Diane Gonzales Bertrand

Spanish translation by Rosario Sanmiguel

In this Spanish-language edition of the sequel to the award-winning *Trino's Choice*, Diane Gonzales Bertrand creates another dramatic story about the choices and the issues that young adults face.

"The emotions are sincere, and selfless. Trino is an appealing protagonist." —*Booklist*

2006, ISBN: 978-1-55885-473-4, Trade paperback, 192 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #54653, ATOS SP: 4.6, ATOS IL: UG, LEXILE: 730(SP)

El año de nuestra revolución

Cuentos y poemas

Judith Ortiz Cofer

Spanish translation by Elena Olazagasti-Segovia

This landmark collection presents a kaleidoscopic vision of growing up—reflected in shimmering bits of poetry, fiction, fable and essay.

"[The] expert translation captures Ortiz Cofer's penetrating look at the bicultural experience of Puerto Ricans in the United States. Interspersed with poetry, prose and popular lore, this collection ... [is] a fine choice for libraries and bookstores with a population of Spanish-speaking teens." —*Criticas*

1998, ISBN: 978-1-55885-472-7, Trade paperback, 128 pages, \$9.95

Bailando en silencio: Escenas de una niñez puertorriqueña

Judith Ortiz Cofer

Spanish translation by Elena Olazagasti-Segovia

This Spanish-language translation of Ortiz Cofer's collection of essays recalls her childhood spent in Puerto Rico and New Jersey.

"For young readers, this is a delightful, thoughtful assessment of bicultural, bilingual life." —*Booklist*

1997, ISBN: 978-1-55885-205-1, Trade paperback, 160 pages, \$12.95
AR Quiz #20913, ATOS SP: 7.2, ATOS IL: UG

Estrellas peregrinas Cuentos de magia y poder

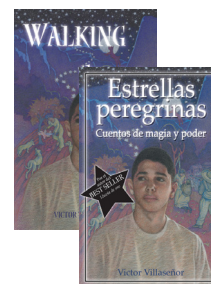
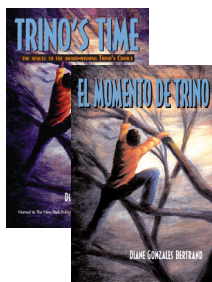
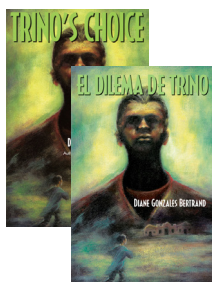
Victor Villaseñor

Spanish translation by Alfonso González

These tales of derring-do and self-discovery, set against the backdrop of the Mexican Revolution and immigration to the United States, all involve young people overcoming physical, emotional and psychological barriers during times of extreme stress.

"These memoirs are vivid, frequently shocking, brutal and not at all naive in their presentation of the tragedies that haunt the lives of the poor." —*Criticas*

2005, ISBN: 978-1-55885-462-8, Trade paperback, 144 pages, \$9.95



Bestselling Bilingual Flip Books for Ages 11+

Animal Jamboree: Latino Folktales La fiesta de los animales: Leyendas latinas

Judith Ortiz Cofer
Spanish translation by Natalia Rosales-Yeomans

Named to the 2012-2013 Tejas Star Reading List

An assortment of animals parade through these Puerto Rican folktales. In “A Funeral for Nangato,” a village of naive, proverb-quoting mice decide to bury their enemy, the cat Nangato, who deserves a proper funeral because one should “be good to those who treat you badly.” But just because all the mice say Nangato is dead doesn’t mean he is! And in “The Brave Little Ant and El Señor Chivo,” a tiny ant helps an old couple save their garden from a bad-tempered goat who is determined to eat them out of house and home. Adapted by celebrated author Judith Ortiz Cofer, these entertaining stories will delight emerging readers.

2012, ISBN: 978-1-55885-743-8, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 80 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #156454, ATOS EN: 5.2, ATOS SP: 5.7, ATOS IL: LG, LEXILE: 950L/890L(SP)

Dennis Chávez: The First Hispanic US Senator El primer senador hispano de los Estados Unidos

Cissie Coy
Spanish translation by Gabriela Baeza Ventura

A Junior Library Guild Selection

This bilingual “flip” book for intermediate readers recounts the inspiring story of Dennis Chávez, who in spite of having to drop out of school in the seventh grade to get a job to help his family, went on to graduate from Georgetown Law School in Washington, DC, and represent New Mexico in the US Senate for twenty-seven years.

“This biography written by Chávez’s granddaughter, bound together with Baeza Ventura’s Spanish translation, will be particularly welcome in these challenging times. The historically notable achievements of this great but nearly forgotten American qualify this title as a must-read.”
—Kirkus Reviews

2012, ISBN: 978-1-55885-852-7, Trade paperback, Ages 11+, 156 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #192759, ATOS EN: 6.4, ATOS SP: 6.4, ATOS IL: MG, LEXILE: 880L/820L(SP)

The Donkey Lady Fights La Llorona and Other Stories La señora Asno se enfrenta a la Llorona y otros cuentos

Xavier Garza

Named to the 2016-2017 Tejas Star Reading List

Set in contemporary times, Garza’s young protagonists deal with much more than just the supernatural: there are chupacabras and drug dealers, witches and bullies, a jealous cousin and the devil. Accompanied by the author’s dramatic black and white illustrations, the short, blood-curdling stories in this bilingual collection for ages 8 – 12 are sure to bewitch a whole new generation of young people.

“An entertaining bilingual collection of short stories that feature a creepy assortment of Mexican-inspired ghosts, witches, monsters, and more. Bilingual readers can read the lightly macabre stories twice, since they repeat in Spanish after the last chapter. Older middle-grade readers will find these Latin American horror stories deliciously short but spooky.”
—Kirkus Reviews

2015, ISBN: 978-1-55885-816-9, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 166 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #186350, ATOS EN: 4, ATOS SP: 2.9, ATOS IL: MG, LEXILE: 610/570L(SP)

Kid Cyclone Fights the Devil and Other Stories Kid Ciclón se enfrenta a El Diablo y otras historias

Xavier Garza

Named to the 2011-2012 Tejas Star Reading List

Popular kids’ book author Xavier Garza returns with another collection of stories featuring spooky characters from Mexican-American folklore. There’s a witch that takes the shape of a snake in order to poison and punish those who disregard her warnings; green-skinned, red-eyed creatures called chupacabras that suck the blood from wild pigs, but would just as soon suck the blood from a human who has lost his way in the night; a young girl disfigured in a fire set by a scorned lover who gets her revenge as the Donkey Lady; and the El-mendorf Beast, said to have the head of a wolf with skin so thick it’s impervious to shotgun blasts. Accompanied by the author’s striking illustrations, this book is sure to lure even reluctant readers into its pages.

2010, ISBN: 978-1-55885-599-1, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 184 pages, \$10.95
AR Quiz #157532, ATOS EN: 4.9, ATOS SP: 4.2, ATOS IL: MG, LEXILE: 780L/700L(SP)

Letters from Heaven / Cartas del cielo

Lydia Gil

2015 Américas Award Commended Title; Named to the 2015-2016 Tejas Star Reading List; Named to Dallas ISD’s 2016-2017 Luminarias Reading List; Winner, 2015 Colorado Authors’ League Awards; 2015 Skipping Stones Honor Award

Celeste is heartbroken when her grandmother dies—until she mysteriously receives a letter from Grandma. Each new letter from the beyond contains a recipe for a favorite food her grandmother used to make, and Celeste consoles herself by learning to cook the dishes. When a final letter arrives, she realizes all the recipes together create an entire meal. Can she really make a Cuban feast to celebrate her cherished grandmother’s life?

“This bilingual book is a quick read that balances the pain of loss with mystery and humor. A tender depiction of a child’s acceptance of the death of a beloved grandmother and the cultural importance of traditional foods.”
—Kirkus Reviews

2014, ISBN: 978-1-55885-798-8, Trade paperback, Ages 8-12, 116 pages, \$9.95
AR Quiz #174193, ATOS EN: 4.5, ATOS SP: 3.8, LEXILE: 680L/650L(SP)

