

Title: *The Golden Flower: A Taíno Myth from Puerto Rico*

Author: Nina Jaffe **Illustrator:** Enrique O. Sánchez

Publication Date: May 31, 2005 **Pages:** 32 **Imprint:** Piñata Books **Price:** \$18.95 **Language:** English

Trim: 8 ½ X 11 **Format:** Hardcover **ISBN:** 978-1-55885-452-9 **Imprint:** Piñata Books **Ages:** 4-8

Title: *Flor de oro: Un mito taíno de Puerto Rico*

Author: Nina Jaffe **Illustrator:** Enrique O. Sánchez **Translator:** Gabriela Baeza Ventura

Publication Date: March 31, 2006 **Pages:** 32 **Price:** \$18.95 **Language:** Spanish

Trim: 8.5" x 11" **Format:** Hardcover **ISBN 13:** 978-1-55885-463-5 **Imprint:** Piñata Books **Ages:** 4-8

The syncopated prose of Nina Jaffe draws the reader to the island of Puerto Rico, back before the Spaniards arrived. The island was inhabited by the Taínos, and they called their beloved island, Boriquén. This is their story of how Boriquén came to be.

In the beginning, there is only a giant mountain above a dry plain without water or plants. When a child walks over the flat land below the mountain, he finds seeds dancing in the wind. When he plants the seeds on the top of the mountain, a forest grows on the crest and in that forest, a large golden flower appears. Soon, the boy and his community reap benefits that they had never before imagined.

A joyful creation myth about the evolution of a beautiful island habitat, this picture book is also a celebration of the young boy's quest, which encourages young readers, ages 4-8, to respect the gifts of the winds and the cycle of nature that bears fruit for the whole community.

GENRE: Children's literature, Multicultural Literature, Spanish-language children's literature

SELLING HANDLES:

- A pair of enchanting picture books that recreate (in separate English- and Spanish-language editions) the indigenous legend of how Puerto Rico became an island
- Named a 1998 Pura Belpre Honor Book
- Both artist and illustrator have been recognized for their previous works.

AUTHOR CREDENTIALS: NINA JAFFE'S acclaimed retellings of world folklore include *Patakin: World Tales of Drums and Drummers* (Cricket Books, 2001) and *Tales for the Seventh Day: A Collection of Sabbath Stories* (Scholastic, 2000). Her books have been honored with the Sydney Taylor Award, The Anne IZARD Storyteller's Choice Award, and a Smithsonian Notable Book. Recent titles include four picture books for the DC Comics Wonder Woman series (HarperCollins, 2004). Ms. Jaffe is on the graduate faculty of Bank Street College of Education. She lives in the Bronx with her family.

ENRIQUE O. SÁNCHEZ is a talented fine artist and an accomplished illustrator with several books to his credit, including *Confetti: Poems for Children* (Lee & Low Books, 2006) by Pat Mora, *Big Enough/Bastante grande* by Ofelia Dumas Lachtman (Piñata Books, 1998) and *Abuela's Weave* by Omar S. Castañeda (Lee & Low Books, 1995).

PRAISE FOR *THE GOLDEN FLOWER*:

Named a 1998 Pura Belpré Honor Book by the American Library Association

“Glowing colors, stylized figures, and overlays are the hallmarks of the eye-catching art, while the spare, clipped prose makes this a folktale beginning readers can tackle.”
—*Booklist*

“The story is told in a simple, lyrical style that will quickly involve young listeners in the myth . . . A welcome addition to the folklore shelves.”
—*Kirkus Reviews*