

# Hispanic and Latinx Book List



## Younger Elementary



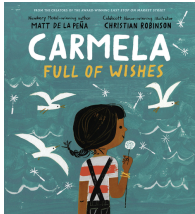
### [There's a Lion in the Forest by Mónica Carnesi](#)

(Picture Book, E CAR, AR Level: 2.0)  
A group of forest animals work together to uncover the source of a mysterious growl. They suspect a lion, but how could that be? Lions don't live in the forest.



### [Gracias by Pat Mora](#)

(Picture Book, E MOR, AR Level: 3.1)  
A young, multiracial boy celebrates family, friendship, and fun by telling about some of the everyday things for which he is thankful.



### [Carmela Full of Wishes by Matt de la Peña](#)

(Picture Book, E DEL, AR Level: 4.0)  
On her birthday, Carmela takes a trip to town with her brother and finds a dandelion. She must think of the perfect wish to make before she blows its white fluff away.



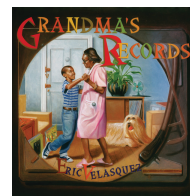
### [My Papi Has a Motorcycle by Isabel Quintero](#)

(Picture Book, E QUI, AR Level: 2.7)  
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.



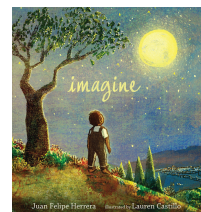
### [Just One Itsy Bitsy Bite by Xavier Garza](#)

(Picture Book, E GAR, AR Level: NA)  
A young boy and his mom agree to share their special Day of the Dead sweet bread with several unexpected visitors in this humorous, bilingual picture book.



### [Grandma's Records by Eric Velasquez](#)

(Picture Book, E VEL, AR Level: 4.4)  
Every summer, Eric goes to live with his grandmother in El Barrio (Spanish Harlem) while his parents work. When she gets them tickets to hear their favorite band in concert, Eric sees Grandma in a new light.



### [Imagine by Juan Felipe Herrera](#)

(Picture Book, E HER, AR Level: NA)  
Have you ever imagined what you might be when you grow up? Juan Felipe Herrera pondered this question often as a child and tells his story in this illustrated poem.



### [Digging for Words: José Alberto Gutiérrez and the Library He Built by Angela Burke Kunkel](#)

(Picture Book, E KUN, AR Level: 4.0)  
Based on the life of Jose Alberto Gutierrez, a garbage collector in Bogota, Colombia who started a library with a single discarded book found on his route.



### [Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away by Meg Medina](#)

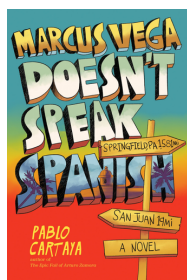
(Picture Book, E MED, AR Level: 3.4)  
Evelyn Del Rey is Daniela's best friend. They do everything together and even live in twin apartments across the street from each other, but not after today. The two girls must say goodbye because Evelyn Del Rey is moving.



### [Día de los Muertos by Roseanne Greenfield Thong](#)

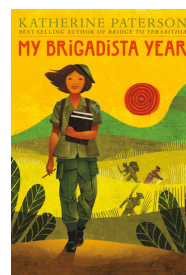
(Picture Book, E THO, AR Level: 3.6)  
It's Día de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead), and children throughout the pueblo, or town, are getting ready to celebrate!

## Middle Grades



### [Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish by Pablo Cartaya](#)

(Chapter Book, J F CAR, AR Level: 3.9)  
After a fight at school leaves him facing suspension, Marcus and his family decide to hit the reset button and regroup for a week in Puerto Rico. Marcus is more interested in finding his father, though, who is somewhere on the island.



### [My Brigadista Year by Katherine Paterson](#)

(Chapter Book, J F PAT, AR Level: 5.3)

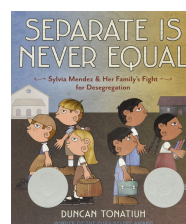
Inspired by true accounts, this book traces a young teen's coming-of-age journey teaching fellow Cubans of all ages to read and write while helping with the work of their daily lives and sharing the dangers posed by counterrevolutionaries hiding in the hills nearby.



### [Efrén Divided by Ernesto Cisneros](#)

(Chapter Book, J F CIS, AR Level: 4.5)

Efrén Nava's Amá and Apá work hard all day to provide for the family. But Efrén worries about his parents; although he's American-born, his parents are undocumented. His worst nightmare comes true one day when Amá doesn't return from work and is deported across the border to Tijuana, México.



### [Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and Her Family's Fight for Desegregation by Duncan Tonatiuh](#)

(Juvenile Nonfiction, j379.263 T, AR Level: 5.1)

Almost 10 years before Brown vs. Board of Education, Sylvia Mendez and her parents helped end school segregation in California.



### [Sal and Gabi Break the Universe by Carlos Alberto Hernandez](#)

(Chapter Book, J F HER, AR Level: 4.9)

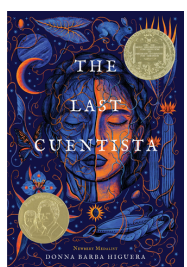
Sal and Gabi are an unlikely duo that works together to reach through time and space to retrieve Sal's dead mother, but their manipulation of time and space puts the entire universe at risk.



### [The Dragon Slayer: Folktales from Latin America by Jaime Hernandez](#)

(Juvenile Nonfiction, GN j398.2 HER, AR Level: 3.4)

How would a kitchen maid fare against a seven-headed dragon? What happens when a woman marries a mouse? Jaime Hernandez asks these questions and more as he transforms beloved myths into bold, stunning, and utterly contemporary comics.



### [The Last Cuentista by Donna Barba Higuera](#)

(Chapter Book, J F HIG, AR Level: 5.0)

Hundreds of years after Earth's destruction, Petra wakes up on a new planet and realizes that she is the only person who remembers Earth. She must use her memories to fight against those bent on erasing the sins of humanity's past.



### [Here is My Kingdom: by Charles Sullivan](#)

(Juvenile Nonfiction, j810.809 H, AR Level: NA)

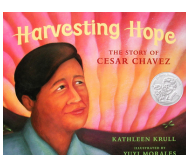
The many facets of the Hispanic-American experience are explored in this colourful anthology. There is a selection of poems, texts and art by classic, well-known and sometimes relatively new writers and artists.



### [The First Rule of Punk by Celia C. Pérez](#)

(Chapter Books, J F PER, AR Level: 4.5)

Twelve-year-old Malú has a tough first day of school. When she starts a band, Malú finally begins to feel at home. She'll do anything to preserve this, which includes standing up to an anti-punk school administration to fight for her right to express herself!

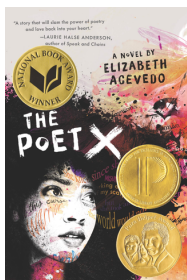


### [Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez by Kathleen Krull](#)

(Juvenile Nonfiction, jB CHAVEZ, AR Level: 5.6)

Cesar Chavez is known as one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. He ignited a cause and improved the lives of thousands of migrant farmworkers. He spoke up, and an entire country listened.

# Young Adult



## [The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo](#)

(Call Number: YA ACE, AR Level: 5.2)

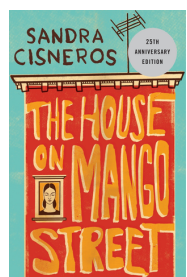
Xiomara Batista feels unheard, so she channels all of her frustration and passion into writing poetry, especially after catching feelings for a boy. Her mother would rather she kept her thoughts to herself, but when she is invited to join her school's slam poetry club, she refuses to stay silent.



## [Becoming Beatriz by Tami Charles](#)

(Call Number: YA CHA, AR Level: 4.6)

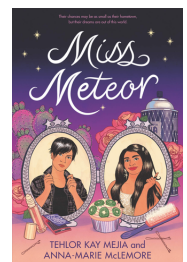
When Beatriz's gang leader brother Junito dies during a turf battle, she is left to run the gang and must abandon her dream of becoming a professional dancer. She must face hard truths and learn to navigate new romance, gang culture, and her own family's hard past.



## [The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros](#)

(Call Number: YA CIS, AR Level: 4.5)

Told in a series of vignettes – sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes deeply joyous—it is the story of a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago, inventing for herself who and what she will become.



## [Miss Meteor by Tehlor Kay Mejia](#)

(Call Number: YA MEJ, AR Level: 5.4)

There hasn't been a winner of the Miss Meteor beauty pageant who looks like Lita Perez or Chicky Quintanilla in all its history. So to pull off the unlikely underdog story in pageant history, Lita and Chicky have to forget the past and imagine a future where girls like them are more than enough—they are everything.



## [Furia by Yamile Saied Méndez](#)

(Call Number: YA MEN, AR Level: 4.9)

At home, Camila Hassan is a careful daughter, but on the fútbol field, she is La Furia. When Camila gets an athletic scholarship to a North American university, her life becomes more complicated, and she must learn to make her way in a world with no place for the dreams and ambition of a girl like her.



## [Sanctuary by Paola Mendoza](#)

(Call Number: YA MEN, AR Level: 5.2)

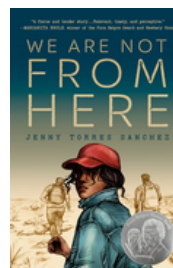
It's 2032, and all citizens are chipped and tracked. It's almost impossible to survive as an undocumented immigrant, but that's exactly what sixteen-year-old Vali is doing until her mother's counterfeit chip malfunctions, and she and her family are forced to flee.



## [Never Look Back by Lilliam Rivera](#)

(Call Number: YA RIV, AR Level: 3.9)

Eury comes to the Bronx as a girl haunted by losing everything in Hurricane Maria. She fully expects her tragedy to catch up with her, but she can almost set this fear aside when she meets Pheus, a boy who wants to help her fight her demons. As the world threatens to tear them apart, Eury and Pheus must fight for each other and their lives.



## [We Are Not From Here by Jenny Torres Sanchez](#)

(Call Number: YA SAN, AR Level: 4.5)

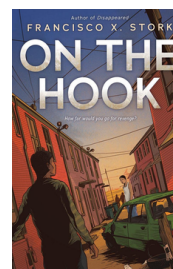
With nothing but the bags on their backs and the desperation that courses through their very veins, Pulga, Chico, and Pequeña embark on a journey to the U.S border from Guatemala in search of freedom and escape from threats that are lurking around every corner of their community.



## [I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika Sanchez](#)

(Call Number: YA SAN, AR Level: 4.7)

Julia is not your perfect Mexican daughter. That was Olga's role, but when Olga dies in an accident, Julia is left behind to reassemble the pieces of her family, and she realizes that Olga might not have been as perfect as everyone thought.



## [On the Hook by Francisco X. Stork](#)

(Call Number: YA STO, AR Level: 4.7)

Hector has always minded his own business, but during a violent confrontation one day, he decides to take a stand and ends up in a reform school where he must choose whether he's going to lose himself to revenge or get back to the hard work of living.