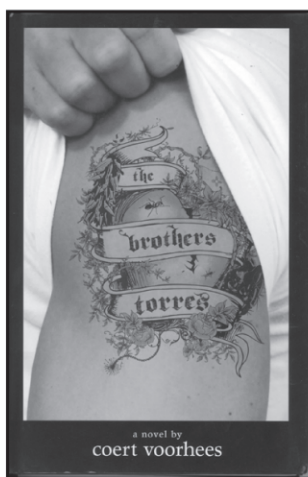


# RESEÑAS/BOOK REVIEWS

teen folktales with influences from the Caribbean, Spain and Africa; Hayes has captured the essence and diversity of Cuba. Creation myths, legends and Pataki comprise this fascinating folktale anthology. Sayago's illustrations are a visual feast adding to the cultural details. Helpful features of the book include the short Spanish glossary after each tale and the brief annotated bibliography. Perfect for teaching bilingual students or units on world myths in the classroom. Recommended.

Reviewed by Denise A. D. Huntsman, SLIS Graduate Student, University of South Carolina, Columbia.



**The Brothers Torres.** Coert Voorhees. New York: Hyperion, 2008. 316 pages. \$16.99 (Hardcover). ISBN 978-1-42310-304-2. Grades 9 and up. English with Spanish.

In this coming of age novel, New Mexico high school sophomore Frankie Torres is on a mission to get Rebecca Sanchez to go out with him. Frankie is the opposite of his popular, good looking, soccer star brother who wants a different kind of popularity - to get in with the Cholos, a local gang. Steve achieves his goal, while Frankie basks in the glow of

finally getting Rebecca to notice him. However, when the family is insulted by the richest kid in town, Steve goes off the deep end in his quest for revenge, and Frankie has to bring him to his senses, even if it means losing all he has gained. Recommended.

Reviewed by Alma Ramos-McDermott, Library Teacher, Pollard Middle School, Needham, MA.



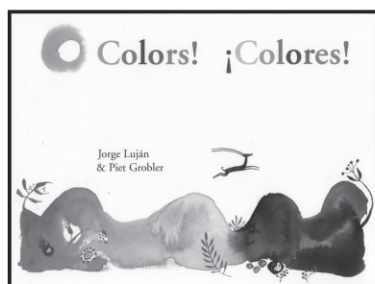
**Charro Claus and the Tejas Kid.** Xavier Garza. El Paso, TX: Cinco Puntos Press, 2008. Unpaged. \$17.95 (Hardcover). ISBN 978-1-933-693-24-8. Grades K-2. Bilingual.

Vincent, visiting his Tío Pancho on Christmas Eve, is surprised to discover that his uncle is Santa Claus's cousin. Santa has come to Pancho's farm on the Mexico-Texas border asking for help delivering presents to the children living along that border. Of course Pancho

agrees, and with the help of Santa's magic, becomes "Charro Claus". Instead of a red suit, he wears a golden mariachi outfit; his old wagon and little burros (renamed the "Flying Burritos") are his means of transportation. This charming story will be embraced

by children who do not see their lives reflected in the traditional snowy Santa tales. Recommended with Reservations.

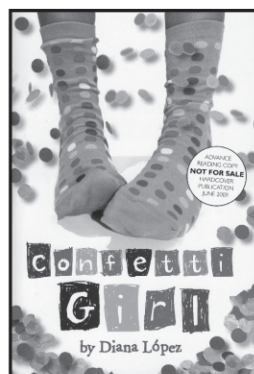
Reviewed by Mary Kuehner, Outreach Librarian, Jefferson County Public Library, Lakewood, CO.



**Colors! ¡Colores!** Jorge Luján. Illus. by Piet Grobler. Trans. by John Oliver Simon & Rebecca Parfitt. Toronto: Libros Tigrillo/Groundwood Books, 2008. 22 pages. \$17.95 (Hardcover). ISBN 978-0-88899-863-7. Grades Pre-K and up. Bilingual.

As the sun rises until the moon sets, blue, yellow, green, orange, red, brown, violet, black, white, and even pink and beige are discovered. Bursting across the page, written lyrical images come to life through vivid watercolors in a superb blend of Argentine and South African cultures. The translation is exquisite, maintaining the rhythm, meaning, and flavor of the author's intentions. *Colors! ¡Colores!* is a required addition to any collection, children or adult. Highly Recommended.

Reviewed by Amy Olson, Children's Librarian, Lexington, KY.



**Confetti Girl.** Diana López. New York: Little, Brown and Company, 2009. 194 pages. \$15.99 (Hardcover). ISBN 978-0-316-02955-1. Grades 4-8. English with some Spanish.

Fourteen-year-old Apolonia "Lina" Flores enjoys wearing crazy socks, smashing volleyballs, and dreaming about her friend Luis. She uses these hobbies as a distraction from the daily dramas of middle school and as a way to deal with the death of her mother a year ago. From managing her boy-crazy

best friend to living with her book-crazed father, Lina finds herself searching for answers to the big questions of her life in Corpus Christi, Texas. This true-to-life novel is sure to strike a chord with girls in their early teens. Recommended.

Reviewed by Nikki Winslow, Adult Services Department Head, West Las Vegas Library, Las Vegas, NV.