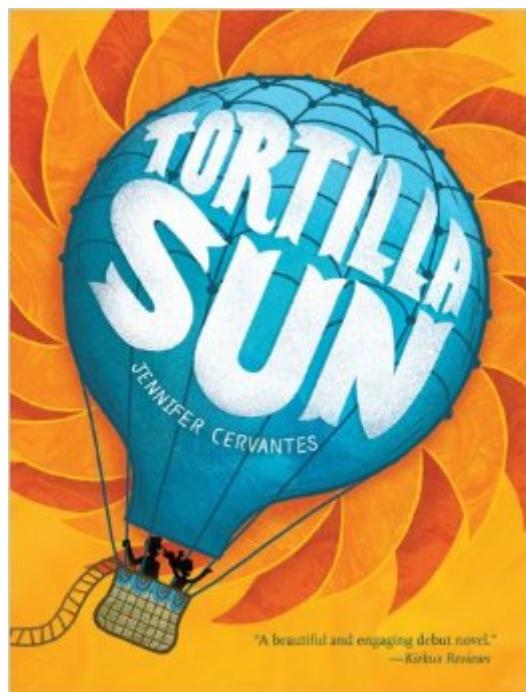


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Tortilla Sun



Synopsis

When twelve-year-old Izzy spends the summer in her Nana's remote New Mexico village, she discovers long-buried secrets that come alive in an enchanted landscape of majestic mountains, whispering winds, and tortilla suns. Infused with the flavor of the southwest and sprinkled with just a pinch of magic, readers are sure to find this heartfelt story as rich and satisfying as Nana's homemade enchiladas.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 620 (What's this?)

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Chronicle Books; Reprint edition (April 1, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1452131503

ISBN-13: 978-1452131504

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 0.8 x 7.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (28 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #539,507 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #86 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Mexico #455 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino #1143 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Multigenerational

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Tortilla Sun by Jennifer Cervantes is a perfect middle grade novel. It is well-constructed, has all the required pieces, and that little extra something that keeps you thinking about the story long after you've read it. It is a book I am looking forward to sharing with my grade six students in a book talk. What I loved most were the surprising elements, the pieces I didn't expect. I didn't expect to meet a master storyteller as a character. Socorro, almost mythic in description, appears and guides both Izzy and the members of the village with her wisdom and tales of the people. In fact, she helps Izzy, an aspiring writer, find her way to write and finish the stories she's been struggling with. With Socorro's guidance and the help of Nana and her new friends, Izzy is able to find her own cuento, or story. The characters are as rich and varied as village life, like the

members of a large family. In fact, one of my favorite scenes is when six of the characters, ranging in age from Nana to young Maggie, play baseball together. Mrs. Castillo with her shiny nails surprises them all and hits a homerun. I didn't expect to find the essence of baseball in here eitherâ "the magic and lore, the homerun, and those bits that capture our imagination. The story starts with Izzy finding an old baseball. She is certain it belonged to her father. Every stitch in that baseball is a thread of her story, of her cuento. In that story, there is healing and forgiveness, and it is one of the pieces that stayed with me long after the first read. Finally, I didn't expect to come away craving empanadas. When Izzy took her first bite my mouth started watering.

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