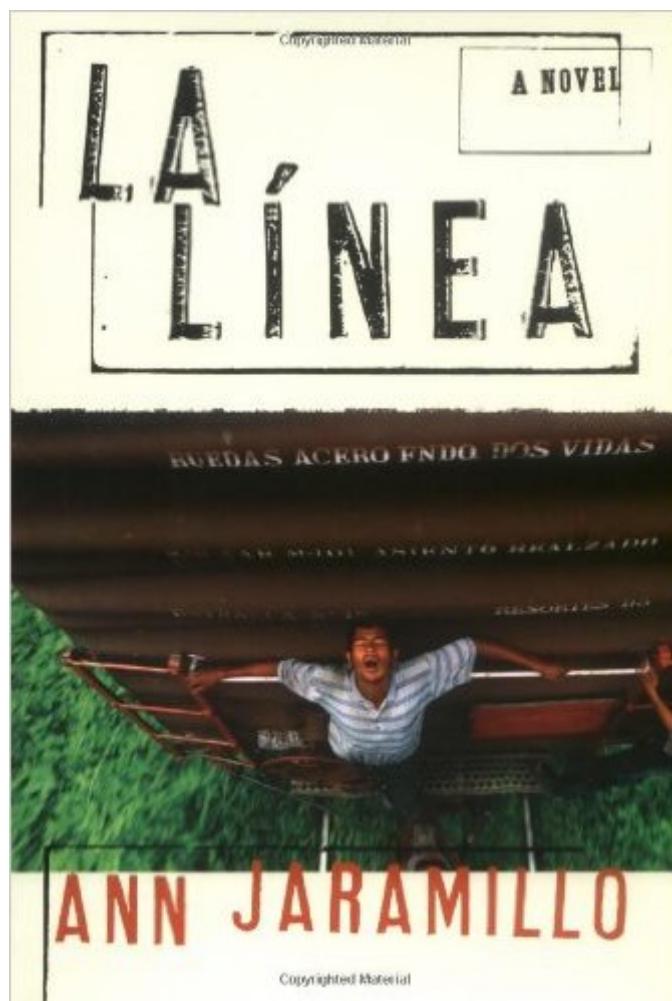


The book was found

La Linea: A Novel



Synopsis

Miguel's life is just beginning. Or so he thinks. Fifteen-year-old Miguel leaves his rancho deep in Mexico to migrate to California across la linea, the border, in a debut novel from Ann Jaramillo of life-changing, cliff-hanging moments. But Miguel's carefully laid plans change suddenly when his younger sister Elena stows away and follows him. Together, Miguel and Elena endure hardships and danger on their journey of desperation and desire, loyalty and betrayal. An epilogue, set ten years after the events of the story, shows that you can't always count on dreams--even the ones that come true. Latino Interest.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 650L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 144 pages

Publisher: Roaring Brook Press; First Edition edition (April 4, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1596431547

ISBN-13: 978-1596431546

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 0.7 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (26 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #592,597 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #95 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Mexico #912 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction #2119 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings

Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

La LÃ-nea is about the journey of two young teenagers trying to cross the U.S.-Mexico border to be reunited with their family in California. It's an incredibly poignant and moving novel. The trip North is hard for Miguel and Elena, and it's not always easy to read about what the two had to endure. I certainly cried through a number of parts. It's difficult to read about how dehumanizing and traumatic the experience is. While it's fiction, it's based on the lived experiences of some of Jaramillo's own students. Knowing how close the story is to the accounts of many immigrants makes the reading even more intense. Jaramillo manages to communicate the danger, violence,

and sacrifice while avoiding overdramatizing the emotions, which allows the story to remain accessible both to students who have had similar experiences as well as those who haven't. While it's certainly a realistic account, there are times when I can imagine that Miguel and Elena were luckier than many in terms of the people they encountered, like Javi and Mo-ses, who led to their ultimate success in making it to the U.S. They met people who sacrificed their own lives so that the two teenagers would make it to their families in the U.S. Yet the story is not overly romanticized, by any means. Even though Elena and Miguel survive the journey, they lose a great deal. Such an experience can't be forgotten; my guess is it forever changes a person. It's one that perhaps you never fully recover from. When we consider the fact that some of our own students may have experienced the same thing, we realize how important a book like this is. The novel puts a very human face on immigration.

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