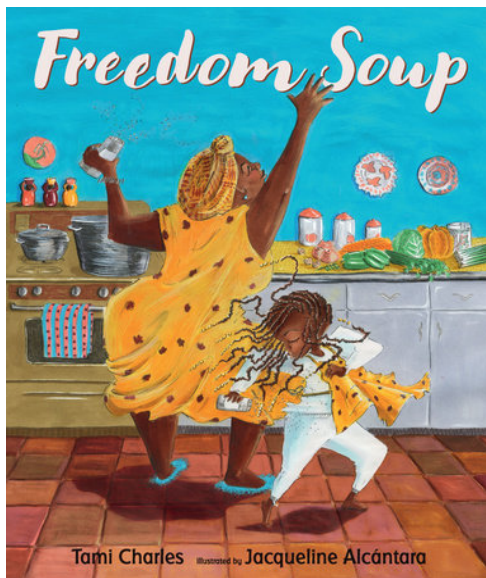


Jacqueline Alcántara



Jacqueline Alcántara is a freelance illustrator and artist spending her days drawing, writing and globe-trotting with her dog Possum. She is fueled by dance music, carbs and coffee. Jacqueline studied Secondary Art Education and taught high school art and photography before transitioning to illustration.



Join the celebration in the kitchen as a family makes their traditional New Year's soup — and shares the story of how Haitian independence came to be. The shake-shake of maracas vibrates down to my toes. Ti Gran's feet tap-tap to the rhythm. Every year, Haitians all over the world ring in the new year by eating a special soup, a tradition dating back to the Haitian Revolution. This year, Ti Gran is teaching Belle how to make the soup — Freedom Soup — just like she was taught when she was a little girl. Together, they dance and clap as they prepare the holiday feast, and Ti Gran tells Belle about the history of the soup, the history of Belle's family, and the history of Haiti, where Belle's family is from. In this celebration of cultural traditions passed from one generation to the next, Jacqueline Alcántara's lush illustrations bring to life both Belle's story and the story of the Haitian Revolution. Tami Charles's lyrical text, as accessible as it is sensory, makes for a tale that readers will enjoy to the last drop.

Freedom Soup

RRS connection to TEKS (2nd-3rd grade): Please refer to TEKS for English Language Arts and Reading:

- *Comprehension skills*
- *Response skills*
- *Author's purpose and craft*
- *Composition I: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--writing process.*
- *Composition II: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--genres.*
- *Inquiry and research*

Vocabulary:

- New Year's Day
- Freedom Soup
- Ingredients
- Freedom
- Haiti, Port-au-Prince
- Rhythm
- Pilon
- Slaves, sugar cane, and coffee fields
- Pride
- Revolution
- Author's note

Pre-reading engagement:

- What does an author do? Think about the title of the book? What does it tell us about the book?
- What do you think the book will be about?
- What does an illustrator do? What did you learn about Jacqueline Alcántara?
- Look at the artwork. What do you see? How does the artwork make you feel?
- Go to Jacqueline's website and learn a bit more about her work.
- Ask your librarian to help you find more information about Black history. What would you like to learn more about?

While/post reading engagement:

- Do you like to cook? Share your favorite recipe with your friends.
- Does your family love to cook? Do you cook together?
- Find information about a pilon- what dishes can we make with it?
- Find information about Haiti- Locate Haiti on a map.
- With your teacher's help: Learn about slavery and Haiti.
- Talk to your family about dishes that your grandparents used to cook. Make a drawing of these dishes.
- With your teacher's help, find out what happened in Haiti after slavery ended.
- Did you enjoy reading this book? Would you recommend this book to your friends?
- Write a book review with your opinion. You can also share your review of this book aloud.
- Don't forget to think about questions you would like to ask Jacqueline Alcántara.
- Make a welcome banner for Jacqueline!

Useful links:

- Illustrator's website: <http://jacquelinealcantara.com/>
- Kirkus Review: <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/tami-charles/freedom-soup/>
- Publisher's website: <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/611939/freedom-soup-by-tami-charles/>
- Haiti History: <http://slaveryandremembrance.org/articles/article/?id=A0111>
- Time Magazine: <https://time.com/4452232/unesco-haitian-abolition/>
- History Channel: <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/haitian-independence-proclaimed>