



***My Papi has a Motorcycle* by Isabel Quintero & Zeke Peña**



Isabel Quintero was born and raised by Mexican immigrant parents in Southern California’s Inland Empire. She earned her BA in English and her MA in English Composition at California State University, San Bernardino. Her debut YA novel, *Gabi, A Girl in Pieces*, won the 2015 Morris Award for Debut YA Fiction and the Tomás Rivera Mexican American Children’s Book Award.

Zeke Peña makes comics and illustrations to reclaim stories and remix history. His work is a mash-up of political cartoons, border rasquache and Hip Hop culture. He was born in Las Cruces, NM and grew up in El Paso, TX. While drawing doodles in his notebooks he received a degree in Art History from the University of Texas at Austin. He recently received the 2020 Ezra Jack Keats and Pura Belpré Illustrator Honors for *My Papi Has A Motorcycle* and the 2017 Horn Book Award for *Photographic: The Life of Graciela Iturbide*. Zeke is currently digging into family history and writing stories for future books.

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. But as the sun sets purple-blue-gold behind Daisy Ramona and her papi, she knows that the love she feels will always be there. With vivid illustrations and text bursting with heart, *My Papi Has a Motorcycle* is a young girl’s love letter to her hardworking dad and to memories of home that we hold close in the midst of change.



RRS connection to TEKS: Please refer to TEKS for English Language Arts and Reading

- Comprehension skills
- Response skills
- Author's purpose and craft
- Composition I (Writing)
- Composition II (genres)
- Inquiry and research

Vocabulary:

- Immigrant neighborhood
- Father - daughter relationship
- Gentrification
- Spanish-english bilingualism
- Memories
- Home
- Motorcycle
- Community cultural wealth
- Onomatopoeia
- Funds of knowledge
- Food and community
- Rituals
- Latinx literature
- Translanguaging
- Drill & dedication
- Carpenter
- Engine, accelerator, gasoline
- Tortilleria
- Raspado shop
- Citrus

Pre-reading engagement:

- What does an author do? What does an illustrator do?
- Think about the title of this book and its cover illustration. How does it make you feel? What does it make you think about?
- Read the sentence on the back cover: “Home is a feeling you take with you”. What are your thoughts about this phrase?
- What genre do you predict this book will be?
- Ask your librarian about where to find more books about latinx experiences.
- Read the author’s biography together. How do you think Isabel Quintero’s life experiences will influence the way she writes her stories?

While/post reading engagement:

- You'll notice that Daisy Ramona loves to interact with the other members of her community. Can you keep track of some of the jobs that the community members are doing when Daisy and her Papi zoom around?
- How would you describe the relationship between Daisy and her papi?
- Create a list of character traits that her papi seems to have.
- When they start their motorcycle ride, the author uses colorful descriptions. Have a discussion about how these words make you as the reader feel.
- Based on what you see and read, what is the neighborhood community like? How do people treat one another? How does history impact the way Daisy and the reader view the city?
- Are these illustrations of Daisy's neighborhood familiar to you? In what way? If not, how is your neighborhood different from hers?
- Critical thinking: what are possible reasons Don Rudy's raspados shop went out of business?
- How does Daisy deal with the changes happening in her environment?
- Throughout the book, you'll notice words such as "Ruff!" "Vroom!" "Thomp!" and "Ding Ding Ding" in the illustrations. How does this help you, as a reader, visualize and experience the story world?
- Think about the construction workers who have built Daisy's beautiful city. What words would you use to describe them?
- When Daisy gets to her favorite part of the ride, she sees many other race cars speeding next to her and a crowd of supporters. Explain what is going on here. How does this make her feel?
- Imagine that you are Daisy driving around the city with your dad/mom/grandparent. What places would you visit in your community? Which ones are special to you and your family?
- Create an anchor chart outlining the elements of this story: Setting, characters, plot, conflict, theme, and point of view.
- Read the author's note together. Discuss the questions the author poses to her readers: "who are the people who build our cities and form our communities? Who are the people who get streets named after them, and who are the people who lay the asphalt?"
- What community cultural wealth do you see?
- Write a question that you would like to ask Isabel or Zeke during their virtual campus visit.

Useful links:

- Author website: <https://laisabelquintero.com/>
- Illustrator website: <https://www.zpvisual.com/>
- Read aloud excerpt by author: https://www.teachingbooks.net/book_reading.cgi?id=18553
- NPR article:
<https://www.npr.org/2019/08/25/753746555/my-papi-has-a-motorcycle-pays-loving-tribute-to-a-california-childhood>
- Author & Illustrator interview (The Horn Book):
<https://www.hbook.com/?detailStory=summer-reading-2019-5q-for-isabel-quintero-and-zeke-pena>