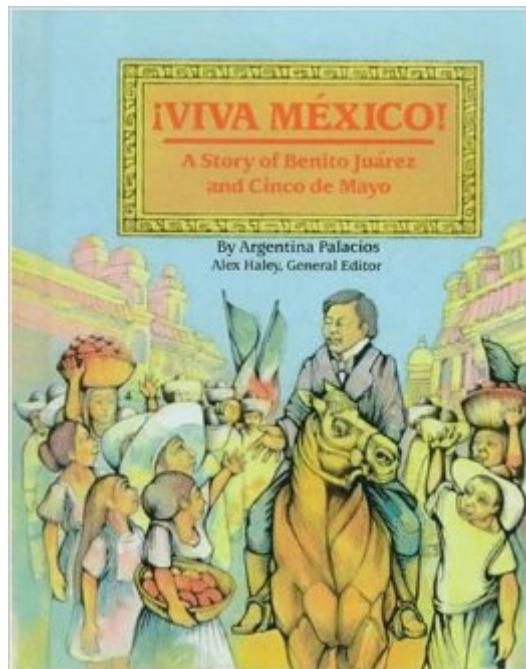


The book was found

Viva Mexico!: The Story Of Benito Juarez And Cinco De Mayo (Stories Of America)



Synopsis

A biography of the Zapotec Indian who grew up to become the President of Mexico and lead his country in a war for independence.

Book Information

Series: Stories of America

Library Binding: 32 pages

Publisher: Raintree Steck-Vaughn Publishers (October 1992)

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,631,018 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Mexico #541 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Political #2244 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical

Age Range: 6 and up

Grade Level: 1 and up

Customer Reviews

I grew up reading Argentina Palacios' books and I can't believe I'm the first person to review this one, probably her masterpiece (although she is young still, and I wouldn't put it past her to write another good one). Palacios is the Panamanian-born New York based author of several children's books and she has always done a fine job re-telling the legends and folk tales of the indigenous people of Peru, Latin America, Central America, even the Spanish speaking people of the West Indies; and she has often provided for the children of those lands up to date and accurate translations of the beloved US children's writers (like Beverly Cleary). VIVA MEXICO is a little different for her, but it just goes to show you, a talented writer doesn't have to depend on re-telling the same old folk tales. This book is a remarkable book of history--with no talking animals here--and it just "happens" to be written for kids, with cute illustrations in bright, primary colors, and it tells the story of Benito Juarez, a boy from the Zapotec Indian tribe who grew up the lowest of the low and yet somehow found it within himself to climb and scratch his way to the Presidential Palace of Mexico City and sit on its throne there. Life wasn't all peaches and cream for Juarez, for he had to

fight one of the bloodiest battles ever fought on this continent, the so-called Battle of Puebla. It so happens that this battle took place on May 5--in Spanish we say, "Cinco de Mayo" and school children and patriotic adults celebrate it everywhere we honor the spirit of a free Mexico. It's funny hearing the explanation of phrases you've heard your whole life long and never understood the meaning of, and that's why we are so grateful to author Palacios.

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