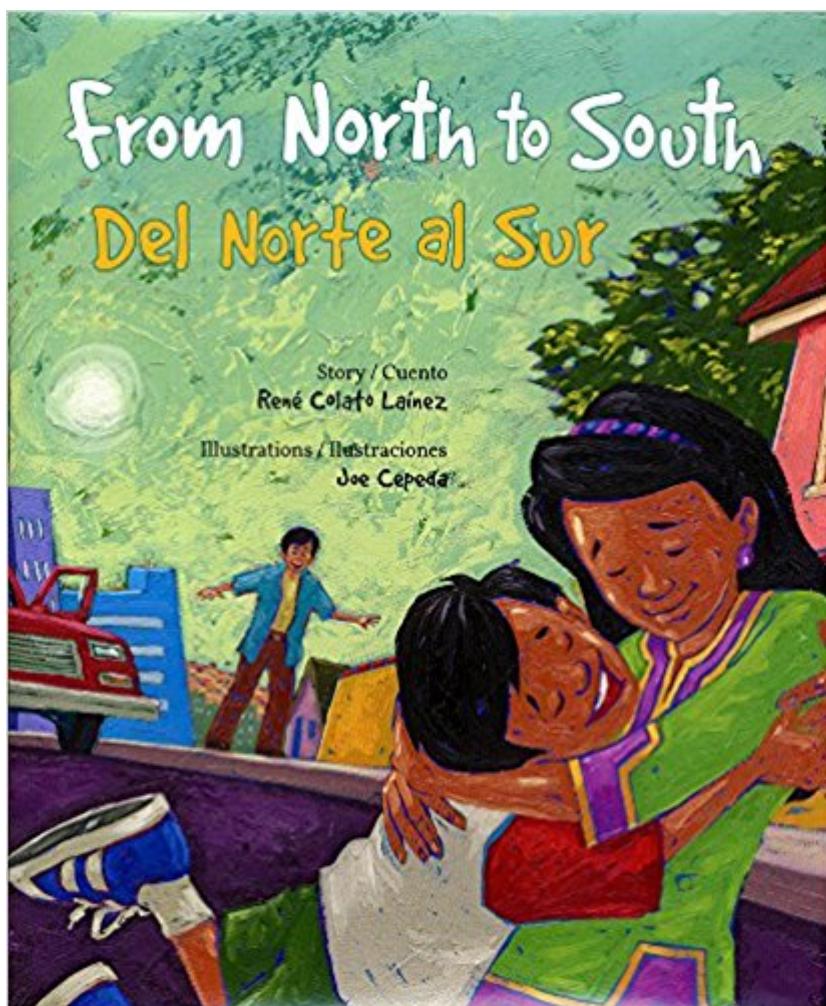


The book was found

# From North To South / Del Norte Al Sur





## Great book

As an elementary school counselor who has had many students with parents facing deportation, I was very excited for this book. Its execution has left me a little bummed though. Pros: Beautiful illustrations, text is also in Spanish, normalizes/removes the stigma from this scary situation. Cons: The child gets to go visit his mom!!! Perhaps in TX or CA this is more common, but in my experience, the most my students can hope for is some FaceTime or a phone call. For me, this makes the book less of a candidate for bibliotherapy because while the first part is relatable, it just doesn't feel realistic and could bring some false hope. It also doesn't delve into the emotional and social experience the main character faces either which was a bummer.

Read the other reviews to learn what this book is about. I want to use my space to share with you the experience my five year old granddaughter had when I read this book to her. She was ready to go outside and play when she saw me reading this book and being the curious child she is, she asked what it was about, grandma you look so sad, what is this book about? Between pages I had to stop because of my crying I could not control. My sweet granddaughter took over and read during my weeping. She had so many questions. I explained her grandpa's green card and how her great grandpa had worked in Los Angeles until he could bring his wife and children across the border legally. Finally satisfied with all of my responses to her many questions, she wrote a letter to President Obama asking for his attention to this matter and for the support of his wife because grandma, "how could anyone not want my grandpa to live here?".

This picture book was written by an elementary school teacher in Los Angeles who learned that the parents of some of his students had been deported. This painful situation led to the creation of the character of Jose, whose mother has been deported. Although the situation is sad, the book still manages to strike a positive note. The story opens with Jose excited about driving with his father from San Diego to visit his mother in Tijuana, where she is staying at El Centro Madre Assunta, a shelter for recently deported women. Jose and his father bring clothes, photographs, and drawings for his mother. Jose helps his mother in the garden, and promises to take care of the garden at home until she is able to return. In addition to teaching kids about immigration issues, this gentle story depicts the love of a son and mother under trying circumstances. The text is in English and Spanish. I have included this book in my online Gender Equality Bookstore.

From North to South is a story of a young boy that misses his mother. Originally from Mexico, Jose's mother was deported to Tijuana for not having the proper documents to remain in the United States. In this short children's book, Jose and his father travel to Mexico to visit his mother. Although his mother is not able to return to the US until she has the proper documents, they manage to have a pleasant visit to Mexico and pray for her return to the states. This heartbreakin

g story reflects the real life situation of families being separated because of immigration issues. The text is written in Spanish and English.

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