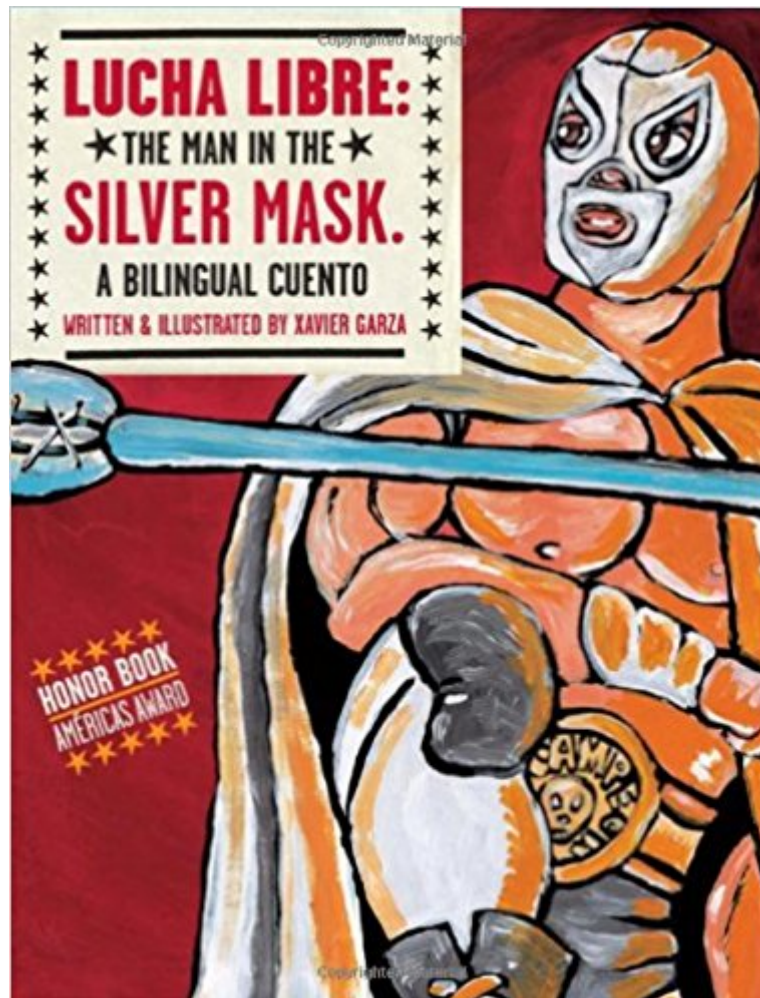




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Lucha Libre: The Man In The Silver Mask (English And Spanish Edition)



Synopsis

In Xavier Garza's bilingual kids' book, young Carlitos attends his first lucha libre match in Mexico City. At ringside, Carlitos sees the famous luchador "the Man in the Silver Mask, a man whose eyes look terribly familiar. The masked wrestler even smiles at Carlitos! He is mesmerized as the Man in the Silver Mask is pitted against the terrible forces of evil "los rudos, the bad guys of lucha libre. They make the audience boo and hiss! In the end, though, the Man in the Silver Mask triumphs and, in the process, gains a lifelong fan.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1140 (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Cinco Puntos Press; Bilingual edition (April 1, 2007)

Language: English, Spanish

ISBN-10: 193369310X

ISBN-13: 978-1933693101

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #524,503 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #95 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Mexico #441 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino #932 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Foreign Language Learning > Spanish

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 6

Customer Reviews

Grade 2-5 "Going to a lucha libre in Mexico City with his grandfather is exciting in itself, but the young narrator of this engaging story is thrilled at being allowed to buy a mask like those worn by the luchadores. Carlitos chooses a silver one just like that of his favorite wrestler. From their seats at ringside, the fights are exciting, including a face-to-face encounter with the boy's hero, the Man in the Silver Mask. Astute readers will easily pick up on the identity of the masked man, and all will increase their knowledge of the Mexican version of the World Wrestling Federation. Smoothly integrated information in fluid colloquial English and Spanish combines with grainy graphic-novel-style illustrations executed in acrylic to create an oddly compelling and sophisticated

package. An informative endnote, in English only, presents a brief but engrossing history of lucha libre. Certain to be a popular choice. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Garza's illustrations are oversized, wildly colored and presented in bold outlines, recalling both Mexican folk art and the rowdy spirit of the stylized sport. They are sure to draw in every wrestling fan under the age of 10. • Kirkus; [An] engaging story • Smoothly integrated information in fluid colloquial English and Spanish combines with grainy graphic-novel-style illustrations executed in acrylic to create an oddly compelling and sophisticated package. Certain to be a popular choice. • School Library Journal; The fluid colloquial English and Spanish and grainy graphic-novel style illustrations executed in acrylics make for an attractive package with definite appeal for boys. This title is sure to become popular. • CrÃ-ticas, starred review "This is a really fun book for little lucha libre fans." • NBC Latino; Recommended! Children familiar with the sport will welcome the vibrant visual paean, while fans of wrestling, comic-book superheroes, and all things pugilistic will wonder where lucha libre has been all their lives. • The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books "The sport [lucha libre] became 'a poor man's theater,' according to Garza. The masked fighters, known as 'luchadores,' are classified as either 'tecnicos' (working-class heroes who play by the rules) or 'rudos' (bad guys who use dirty tactics to get ahead). It's the classic struggle between good and evil. 'Somehow, in the nick of time, the good guy will triumph,' Garza said. 'And if he doesn't, it's to set up a bigger match down the road.'" • Boston Herald Review "Without resorting to the kitsch or comedy that plagues so many other pop portrayals of these masked men, Garza's hyper-exaggerated, vibrant illustrations spring to life from the book's pages and convey an aura of reverence and awe befitting his young protagonist. Carlitos has a blast and, chances are, you will, too. It's the next best thing to having front-row seats for the Friday-night match." • San Antonio Current; Garza's excellent contribution to children's literature will definitely introduce new audiences to the fantastic world of lucha libre. • El Paso Times "For the kids is the main event, about a youngster whose father takes him to watch wrestling while visiting his big bicep-ed tio Vicente, who suspiciously is never there when the Man in the Silver Mask is • For the grown-ups, the story is followed by 'a brief but tremendously exciting history' of lucha libre. Both age groups should appreciate Garza's paintings, with their folk art/street mural vibe, thick line strokes and white-warm colors • even if it's for different reasons." • Alive Columbus "Narrated by a young lucha libre fan, The Man in the Silver Mask tells the story of a boy's trip with his

Papá; Lupe to a match. The eye-popping illustrations, by author Xavier Garza, highlight the exciting world of Mexican wrestling where the action is brutal, the crowd goes wild, and real men wear masks."#151;El Paso Inside & Out Magazine"Wrestling matches in Mexico feature good guys (los tecnicos) and bad guys (los rudos). At the match in Mexico City, Carlito wishes his Tio Vicente could be there, but the famous luchador The Man in the Iron Mask has eyes that look very familiar"#133;Garza highlights the power of wrestling (Lucha libre) in Mexico, and the mythology of good and evil played out on the wrestling stage."#151;Yellow Brick Road"Xavier Garza tells the story of Lucha Libre, Mexico's freestyle wrestling sport, which mirrors a fight between good and evil. Favorite heroes and feared villains in outrageous costumes wrestle for victory in the wonderful Mexican tale."#151;Teaching Tolerance"[The] dramatic tension is subtle throughout the book, particularly in contrast to the bold illustrations and poster-style design, which are more exciting than the narrative. Garza includes a valuable addendum regarding the history of lucha libre, which is informative without being inaccessible to children."#151;Children's Literature

For whatever reason, a lot of boys love wrestling. This book captures that developing understanding of the fight between good and evil that young boys feel when they watch their favorite wrestlers. The dialogue between the characters is real and the art is exciting and dynamic. The author is a native of the border and the authenticity shows. I would recommend this book for any young reader, but I would especially recommend it for young hispanic boys.

Lucha Libre translates as Freedom Wrestler; it is a Mexican style wrestling. This is an exciting story for school boys and girls who love to draw and read about comic heroes. The hero in this amazing picture book is the man in the silver mask. He's a good guy who battles all the bad guys in the ring. He becomes the idol of Vincent, his father and uncle when he visits the wrestling area and gets to watch the crowd and the wrestlers battle in the ring. The book is funny and fun to read, written in Spanish and English. The drawings are full of action and drama. Fantastic reading!

These are comments from my students..."Lucha Libre: The Man in the Silver Mask is a book about fighting or wrestling. 'Lucha Libre...'is a good book for Spanish people that don't know how to read or speak in English. It's also good for people who don't know how to speak or read in Spanish because on each page it has an English part and a Spanish part, too. My opinion about the book is that it is a good book and it has good pictures. Also, on each page there are pictures that are colorful." --Duaa"I like this book because it's a good book and it's interesting, especially the part

about El Vampiro. I like when he stretches and his stomach pops out and his muscles get stronger. You should read this book because it has Spanish and English. It's fun. You should read it!"

--Feras "My opinion about 'Lucha Libre: The Man in the Silver Mask' is that it is good because it's bilingual and people who speak Spanish can understand the two different languages, Spanish and English, and learn them a little better. The good thing about this book is that it has two boxes, one in English and one in Spanish. It is a good book, and you should read it. The book was interesting through the whole thing. As I read it, it was getting more and more interesting. You should read this book because it will be a nice book for you!" --Kiara

"I like this book, 'Lucha Libre: The Man in the Silver Mask', because it has English and Spanish. However, it has too many pictures. My favorite part is when the Man in the Silver Mask jumps on El Vampiro, and he lands on the ground. That's when the Tecnicos won. " --Daniel

"My opinion of the book 'Lucha Libre: The Man in the Silver Mask' is that this book is a good book to read because this book helps people that speak no Spanish learn to speak some Spanish. Also for people that speak no English, they can learn to speak some English. This is also a good book for little kids because it has a lot of pictures. Another thing I liked about this book is that most of it is understandable, but it does have some hard words to read. This is why I think this is a good book to read." --Victor

"My opinion of the book 'Lucha Libre: The Man in the Silver Mask' is that it is a great book to read. I liked reading this book because it is interesting. You read one page, and you want to keep on going. One thing that I don't like about this book is it looks hard to read. I love the pictures because they have action, and they are so creative, the colors and all. One thing I really like is that it is in Spanish and English. I liked the end of the book; it is wonderfully interesting. This book is awesome, very great. You need to read this book. " --Diana

"My opinion about 'Lucha Libre: The Man in the Silver Mask' is that it was a really good book. I liked this book because it was really interesting. I was interested to know what would happen at the end of the book. I liked this book because in the beginning it started in an exciting way and ended in an exciting way, too. So, I would like to tell you to check out this book; it is really interesting. It really has great illustrations and a great story." --Gisela

"My opinion of 'Lucha Libre: The Man in the Silver Mask' is that I like it because it has pictures and it has Spanish and English words. It is about a man in a silver mask (that's the book title), and they have fun. They have other luchadores, like El Cucuy, El Vampiro, El Carvenicola and more, but the best one is the Man in the Silver Mask. He's the best luchadore, and that's what the boy (Carlitos) said, but he doesn't know if the Man in the Silver Mask is his uncle." --Alondra

This bilingual Spanish-English book will be enjoyed by all kids, whether Mexican or American, who

like pro wrestling. It is centered around young Carlitos' attendance at a wrestling match in Mexico City with his father Papa Lupe. The "bad" group of wrestlers is presented, then the "good" group. The wrestlers have colorful outfits, and what masks! It was the silver mask that Carlitos had purchased at the concession stand, and to his delight he finds it is The Man in the Silver Mask who leads the good group (and there is an interesting twist). But the bad group is more interesting: masks of a shark, a caveman, and a vampire bat! The large-sized color illustrations emphasize those masks along with the formidable bearing of each wrestler. A concluding history of lucha libre in Mexico describes its tradition and the linkage of the ring, comic books, and film in its popular culture. Yes, there was a real-life Man in the Silver Mask! The side-by-side English and Spanish text will be helpful to those seeking to improve their Spanish (o ingles).

The young narrator has the opportunity of a lifetime; not only does attend the Lucha Libre matches with his grandfather, but a chance to purchase a mask of his favorite luchadore, the Man in the Silver Mask, and the opportunity to meet the legend before he does battle inside the sward-circle. Though the book is written for ages 9-12, the wonderful artwork - in a classic, graphic-novel style - and endnote on the history of Lucha Libre makes this a collectible for any fan of professional wrestling. The mask may be silver, but this luchadore is pure gold to the young fan; with the story evoking memories - for those sharing it with children - on real past heroes in the ring.

"The Man in the Silver Mask" is an overt tribute to "El Santo, El Enmascarado de Plata" but its also a beautiful story of familial love...The story reminded me of the fascination lucha libre and pro-wrestling held for me in my youth. The story can be compared to the youthful feelings a child experiences during Christmas and the stories of "Santa Claus". I took great pleasure and pride reading this story to my two year old daughter, who I believe really experienced the feelings of joy the artist provided within the pages. The pictures were bold, the emotions were strong. A beautiful story for all ages.

This is a charming story, beautifully illustrated (for the record, I am a collector of Xavier's artworks, including some wonderful "portraits" of Lucha Libre masked men and women). The historical background at the back of the book is like dessert....Xavier's telling of the real story of Lucha Libre makes this book a real treasure. We have a copy in our library, and have bought copies for the "older" grandsons (10 & 12) and the younger grandson (6). We are all going to enjoy the book for a very long time.

Great book, timely delivery.

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