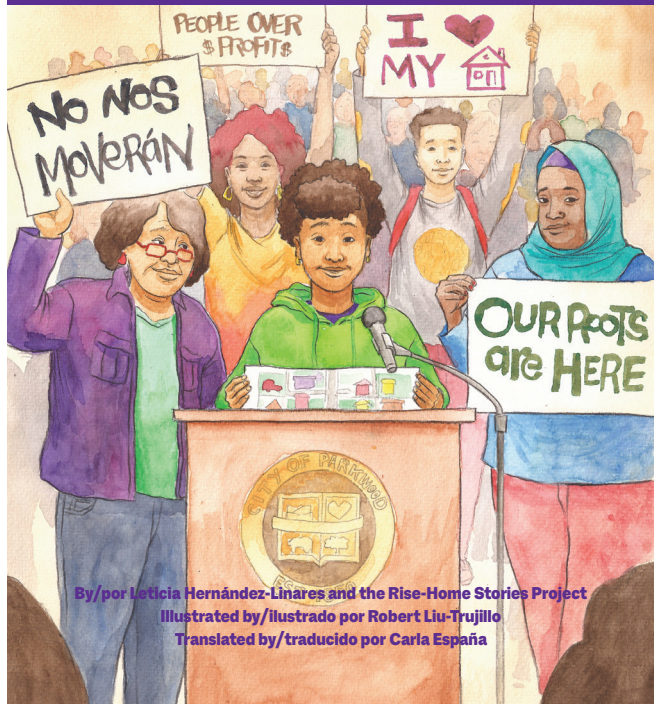


Alejandria Fights Back! ¡La lucha de Alejandria!



By/por Leticia Hernández-Linares and the Rise-Home Stories Project
Illustrated by/ilustrado por Robert Liu-Trujillo
Translated by/traducido por Carla España

Alejandria Fights Back! ¡La lucha de Alejandria!

WRITTEN BY Leticia Hernández-Linares
and the Rise-Home Stories Project

ILLUSTRATED BY Robert Liu-Trujillo

SPANISH TRANSLATION BY Carla España

Join nine-year-old Alejandria as
she fights to save her neighborhood
in this bilingual picture book!

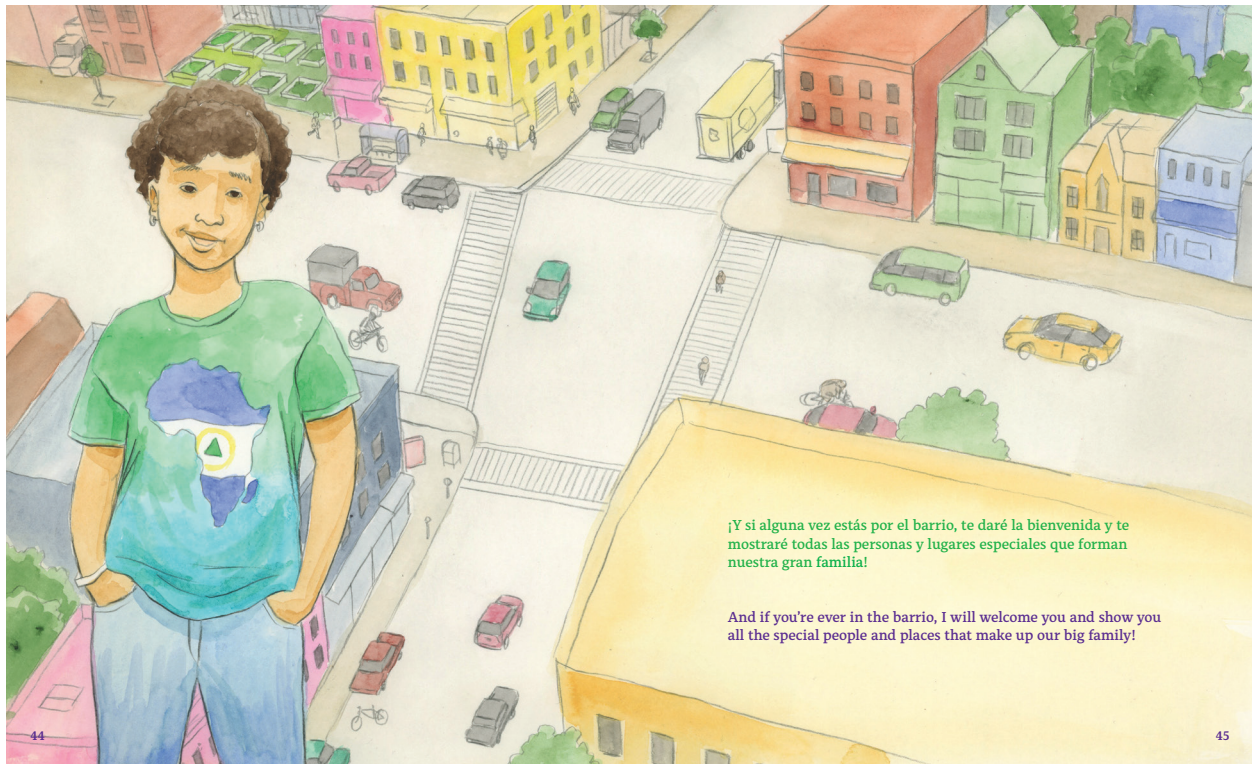
Publication Date: August 10, 2021 | ISBN: 9781558617049

\$16.95 | 48 pages | 8.5 × 0.4 × 11 inches

Reading Age 5–7 years | Lexile measure 580L

For all inquiries please contact Jisu Kim | jisu@feministpress.org





¡Y si alguna vez estás por el barrio, te daré la bienvenida y te mostraré todas las personas y lugares especiales que forman nuestra gran familia!

And if you're ever in the barrio, I will welcome you and show you all the special people and places that make up our big family!

About the Book

For nine-year-old Alejandria, home isn't just the apartment she shares with Mami and her abuela, Tita, but rather the whole neighborhood. Home is the bakery where Ms. Beatrice makes yummy picos; the sidewalk where Ms. Alicia sells flowers with her little dog, Duende; and the corner store with friendly Mr. Amir.

But lately the city has been changing, and rent prices are going up. Many people in el barrio are leaving because they can no longer afford their homes, and "For Sale" signs are popping up everywhere. Then the worst thing happens: Mami receives a letter saying they'll have to move out too.

Alejandria knows it isn't fair, but she's not about to give up and leave. Join Alejandria as she brings her community together to fight and save their neighborhood!

Para Alejandria de nueve años, el hogar no es sólo el apartamento que comparte con Mami y su abuela, Tita, sino más bien todo el barrio. El hogar es la panadería donde la Sra. Beatrice hace unos ricos picos; la vereda donde la Sra. Alicia vende flores con su perrito, Duende; y la pulpería con el amistoso Sr. Amir.

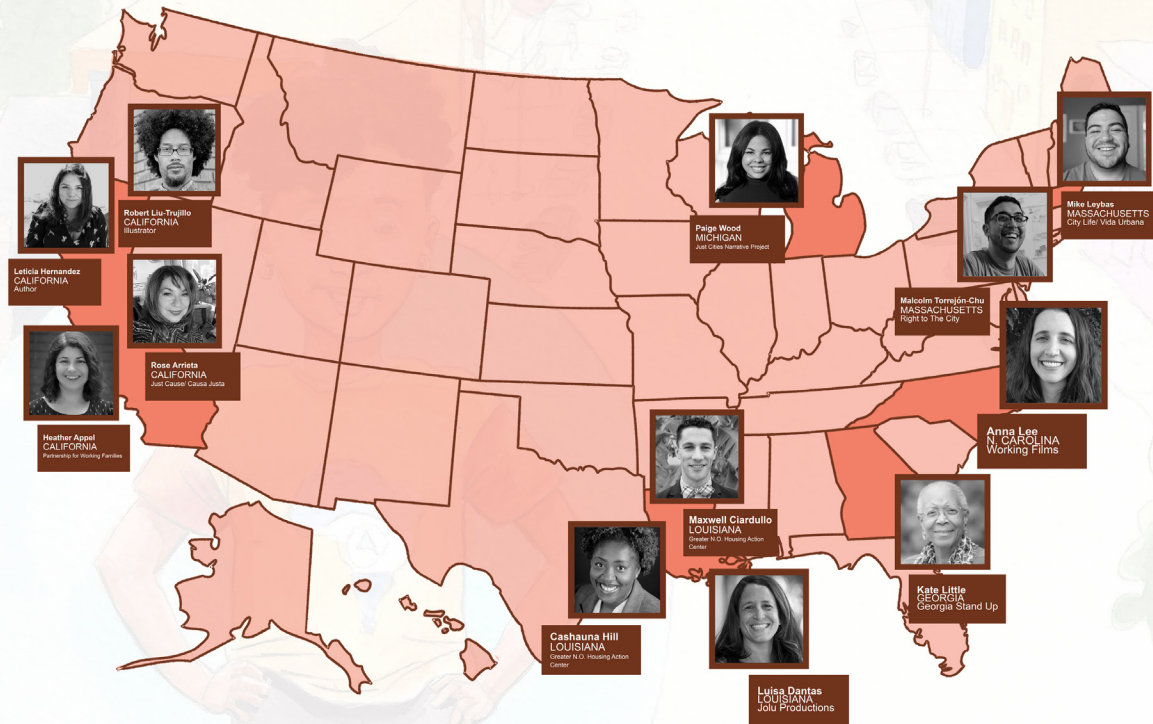
Pero últimamente la ciudad ha estado cambiando, y los precios de alquiler están subiendo. Muchas personas en el barrio se están yendo porque ya no pueden costear sus hogares, y letreros anunciando "Se Vende" están apareciendo por todos lados. Entonces ocurre lo peor: Mami recibe una carta diciendo que ellas también tendrán que mudarse.

Alejandria sabe que no es justo, pero no está dispuesta a darse por vencida e irse. ¡Únete a Alejandria mientras ella reúne a su comunidad para luchar y salvar su barrio!

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ALEJANDRIA'S STORY



JUST CITIES NARRATIVE SHIFT PROJECT

About the Team

THE RISE-HOME STORIES PROJECT is an innovative collaboration between multimedia storytellers and social justice advocates from several grassroots organizations who work at the nexus of housing, land, and racial justice in the US. It came together in 2018 to reimagine the past, present, and future of our communities by transforming the stories we tell about land and home. To that end, the Rise-Home Stories Project is creating a body of multimedia projects aimed at diverse audiences that expose the generational impacts of racist land and housing policy while planting a long-term vision for our collective future. *Alejandria Fights Back!* is one of those projects.

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LETICIA HERNÁNDEZ-LINARES is an educator, interdisciplinary artist, and author of the poetry collection *Mucha Muchacha, Too Much Girl*. She is also the coeditor of *The Wandering Song: Central American Writing in the United States*. A 2017 San Francisco Library Laureate, she is the recipient of four San Francisco Arts Commission Individual Artist grants, and has received support from the Creative Work Fund and the Zellerbach Family Foundation. A longtime community worker and Mission resident, she teaches in the College of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University.

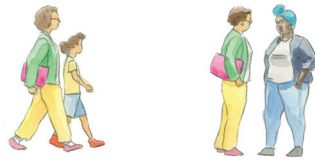


ROBERT LIU-TRUJILLO is a lifelong Bay Area resident. Born in Oakland, California, he is the child of student activists who watched lots of science fiction and took him to many demonstrations. Always drawing, Rob grew up to be an artist, falling in love with graffiti, fine art, illustration, murals, and children's books. Through storytelling, he's been able to scratch the surface of so many untold stories. He is the author and illustrator of *Furqan's First Flat Top*.



CARLA ESPAÑA is an instructor at the Bank Street College Graduate School of Education. Carla's teaching journey began in a bilingual classroom in Harlem, New York, continued at Teachers College Reading and Writing Project partner schools, and at the bilingual teacher preparation program at Hunter College, City University of New York.





Era el primer día de las vacaciones de verano, y estaba caminando con Tita. Ella paró para charlar con la Sra. Beatrice. Salí corriendo, adelantándome para poder jugar con Duende.

It was the first day of summer vacation, and I was walking with Tita. She stopped to chat with Ms. Beatrice. I ran ahead so I could play with Duende.

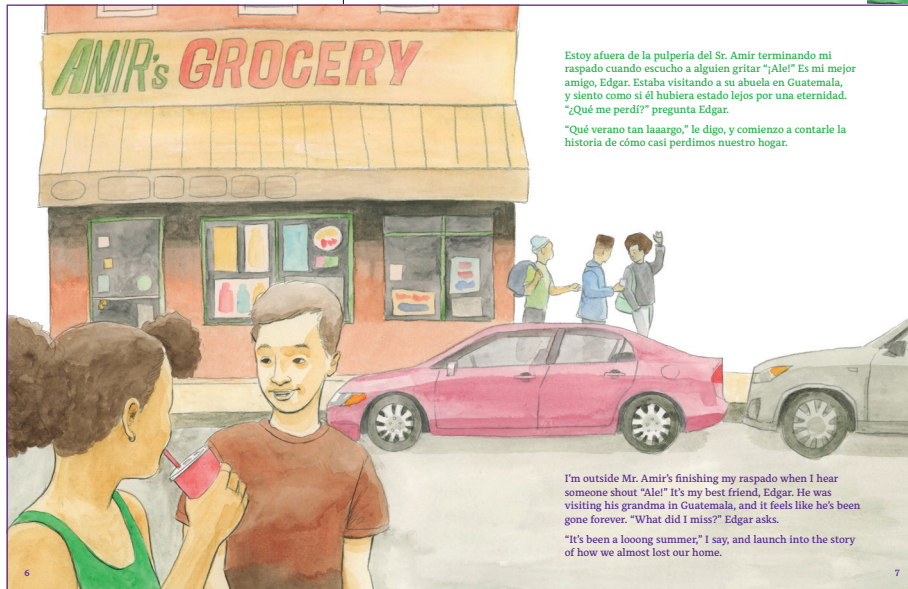


Me tropecé y tumbé un letrero. La Sra. Alicia vino corriendo. "¿Ale, estás bien?"

I tripped and knocked over a sign. Ms. Alicia came running. "Ale, are you all right?"

Tita nos alcanzó. "Ay, mira esto. ¡Otro letrero anunciando 'Se Vende'!" La Sra. Beatrice asintió con la cabeza. "Hay uno nuevo cada otro día."

Tita caught up to us. "Ay, look at this. Another 'For Sale' sign!" Ms. Beatrice nodded. "There's a new one every other day."



Estoy afuera de la pulpería del Sr. Amir terminando mi raspado cuando escucho a alguien gritar "¡Ale!" Es mi mejor amigo, Edgar. Estába visitando a su abuela en Guatemala, y siento como si él hubiera estado lejos por una eternidad. "¿Qué me perdiste?" pregunta Edgar.

"Qué verano tan laargo," le digo, y comienzo a contarle la historia de cómo casi perdimos nuestro hogar.

I'm outside Mr. Amir's finishing my raspado when I hear someone shout "Ale!" It's my best friend, Edgar. He was visiting his grandma in Guatemala, and it feels like he's been gone forever. "What did I miss?" Edgar asks.

"It's been a looong summer," I say, and launch into the story of how we almost lost our home.

The book also includes a Spanish-English glossary to expand on Spanish words, as well as housing justice terms!

...feel nervous...
...little ants crawling...
...any. I have heard people...
...butterflies in their...
...mine feel like ants.

LANDLORD: A company or person who owns a house, apartment, or home that they don't live in, and someone else money to live there.

ORGANIZER: A person who supports community members to come together to recognize their power and fight for their rights. You can be an organizer at any age.

PICOS: Delicious sweet bread in the shape of a triangle, filled with cheese and sugar. In Spanish, "picos" means "sharp points," and the picos that are sharp points that...

...decir que tienen miedo...
...estómago, pero las más se sienten como hormigas.

INQUILINO: Una persona que alquila su hogar de un propietario. Cada mes le pagan al propietario para vivir en el hogar.

ORGANIZADORA: Una persona que ayuda a que los miembros de una comunidad se unan para reconocer su poder y luchar por sus derechos. ¡Puedes ser un organizador o una organizadora a cualquier edad!

PICOS: Pan dulce y delicioso en forma de triángulo, lleno de queso y azúcar. "Picos" también significan "puntos agudos" y los picos que come...

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Alejandria Fights Back's intended audience is early readers and children who can read books aloud with their parents, so that the lessons and messages within the narrative can be learned and discussed by adults and children together. We are targeting kids and caregivers who have been or are likely to be impacted by displacement and housing insecurity, with a focus on reaching communities of color, as well as educators and advocates to work with these populations.



The book was born when eleven grassroots organizations—now known as the Rise Home Stories Project—came together in 2018 in recognition of the need to build and disseminate a shared framework to counter and replace the dominant housing narratives that keep communities divided, disempowered, and desperate for survival in the midst of the displacement crisis. The cohort of organizations represent tens of thousands of renters, borrowers, and houseless people in more than fifty US cities. They've joined forces on policy and direct-action campaigns in the past, but this is a first-of-its-kind collaboration on a creative project aimed at youth.



Alejandria Fights Back imagines a world beyond evictions and slumlords, challenging stories about land, housing, and development through the lens of those often most impacted by displacement but least heard: young people. It inspires kids to take action and to get involved with their community on a neighborhood and local government level.





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The Rise-Home Stories Project is a groundbreaking collaboration between multimedia storytellers and social justice advocates from several grassroots organizations who work at the nexus of housing, land, and racial justice in the US.

To learn more, visit
risehomestories.com

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