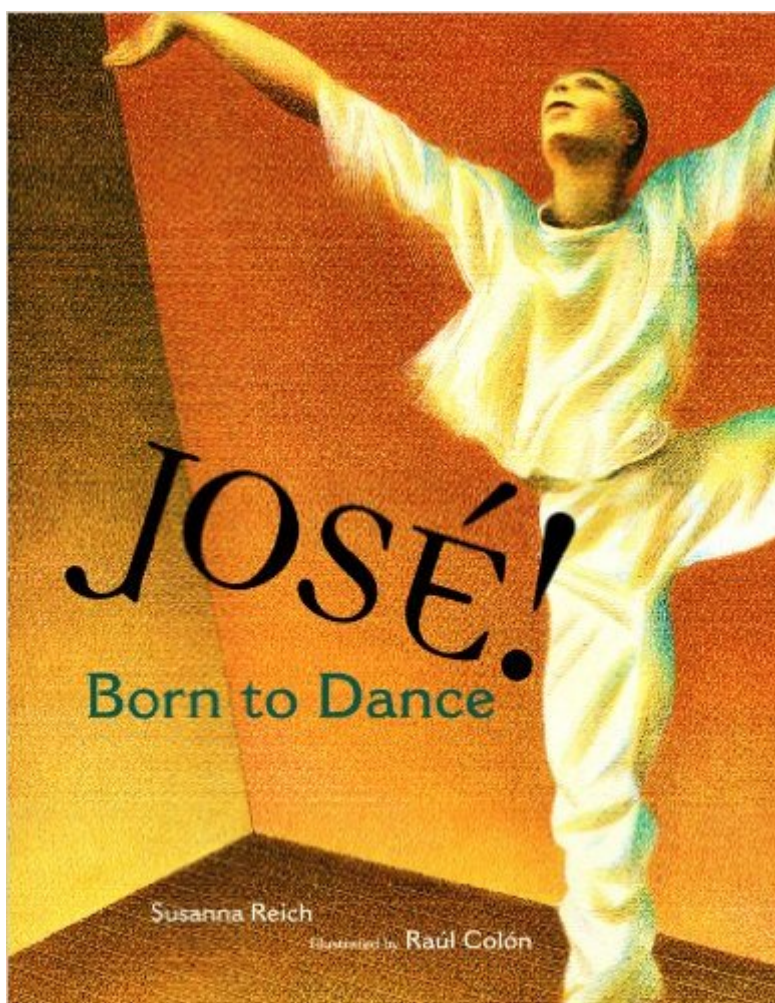


The book was found

Jose! Born To Dance: The Story Of Jose Limon (Tomas Rivera Mexican-American Children's Book Award (Awards))



Synopsis

José was a boy with a song in his heart and a dance in his step. Born in Mexico in 1908, he came into the world kicking like a steer, and grew up to love to draw, play the piano, and dream. José's dreaming took him to faraway places. He dreamed of bullfighters and the sounds of the cancan dancers that he saw with his father. Dance lit a fire in José's soul. With his heart to guide him, José left his family and went to New York to dance. He learned to flow and float and fly through space with steps like a Mexican breeze. When José danced, his spirit soared. From New York to lands afar, José Limón became known as the man who gave the world his own kind of dance. *¡Olé! ¡Olé! ¡Olé!* Susanna Reich's lyrical text and Raúl Colón's shimmering artwork tell the story of a boy who was determined to make a difference in the world, and did. José! Born to Dance will inspire picture book readers to follow their hearts and live their dreams.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 720L (What's this?)

Series: Tomas Rivera Mexican-American Children's Book Award (Awards)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books; New title edition (August 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689865767

ISBN-13: 978-0689865763

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #149,598 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Mexico](#) #48 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Performing Arts](#) #130 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

A beautifully illustrated biography of the dancer José Limón, this book has proven to be quite timely in light of recent events surrounding immigration. It chronicles how young José fled Mexico for America and endured ridicule in elementary school for his poor English. Regardless, José's

determination to succeed prevailed, and his story always receives cheers when I read it to various elementary classes. To view this and other cool short book recommendations for all ages.[...]

This boy of Mexican dancer Jose Limon is beautiful. This young Mexican boy who immigrates to America and follows his dreams of becoming a painter is a pure joy to read. Painting is not the road he takes. Dancing finds him! After reading this book I proceeded to learn more about Jose and the his dancing career in New York. This book is amazing in it illustrations. I love any book Raul Colon illustrates! I think 1st-3rd graders would enjoy this book.

José Born To Dance is a beautifully written and illustrated biography of José Limón (1908-1972), one of the great dancer/choreographers of the twentieth century. José was the oldest child in a large Mexican family that immigrated to the United States after his father lost his job as a result of the Mexican revolution. Taunted in school, José became determined to learn English better than his classmates and within three years, he spoke with confidence. Inspired by his artistic talent, José left his family in California and traveled to New York, where he discovered that his talents lay in dance rather than visual arts. After years of study and hard work, José formed his own dance company, which continues to tour today. His dances are still performed by major dance companies throughout the world. Written in poetic prose and illustrated in luminous watercolor and colored pencil, this biography will delight young readers, as well as offer lessons in the connection between determination, hard work, and success.

This book was a biography of a Mexican American who was born in Mexico and moved to California during the Mexican Revolution and found a passion for dancing while in New York. He was a young man who found his artistic talent for dancing and this book also lets readers know that it is not too late to find and reach your dreams in life at an older age. The pictures in the book are amazing, the watercolors and colored pencils of the pictures are soft and warm...beautiful! I would recommend this book to be read for second and third graders. I think it is important for this grade level of students to read it because schools have a diverse population of students and some could relate to this book. I would most definitely say this book would also be for aspiring young artist who want to perform as dancers or choreographers.

Jose was born in Mexico where his father was a musician. Jose's family had to flee their home because of rebels. Jose's family move their family to the United States. Jose had to adjust to being

in a new environment and had to learn English. Jose was artistic and dreamt about going to New York to pursue his dream of painting and drawing. Once, in New York he realized that his painting and drawing were not what he wanted. It wasn't until he went to a dance recital he realized his passion was to dance. Jose Limon studied many years and reached his dream. I enjoyed the message that if you follow your heart your dreams will come true.

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