

LORGNETTE

Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

Author

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Illustrator

Illustrated by Elisa Chavarri

Reviewer

Carruth, Leah D

Pages

Unpaged

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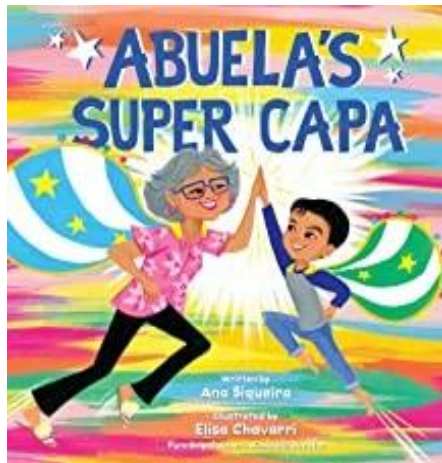
Harper, 2023

Classification

Fiction

Grade Level

PreK-2



Book Review: ABUELA'S SUPER CAPA

Grandparents hold a special place in our hearts. Abuela is no different for Luis. His Abuela is his crime-fighting partner, and both of them are fitted with super capas. Luis enjoys his routine with Abuela, having special shakes, hugs, and kisses. Then Abuela becomes ill and can no longer participate in the superhero play. Luis, who used to call his little sister “the little intruder,” has to make his sister his new sidekick. This promotion makes everyone happy, and Luis is able to continue being a superhero with a sidekick.

The powerful illustrations communicate the story without the need for words. It is clear what is happening on each page and what intense emotions are being felt. When people are playing at the beginning of the story, there are action words to show that Luis and Abuela are superheroes, even as Luis scolds the little intruder. One especially powerful page is when Abuela gets sick and Luis is very sad, wondering if he will ever have his sidekick back. The background is a dark blue with Luis sitting by himself with a tear on his cheek. The capa is hanging long behind him, as still as his world is at this time. Readers will feel their emotions lifted by the scene at the end when Luis and Isabel shout, “¡Vamanos!” as they push Abuela in her wheelchair, the color exploding on the page to show the sheer happiness.



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