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Colibrí (Readers Circle)



Synopsis

When Tzun'ón was little, her mother nicknamed her Colibrí, Spanish for "hummingbird." At age four, Colibrí is kidnapped from her parents in Guatemala City and ever since she traveled with Uncle, the ex-soldier and wandering beggar, who renamed her Rosa. Uncle told Rosa that he looked for her parents, but never found them.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0730 (What's this?)

Mass Market Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Laurel Leaf; Reprint edition (September 13, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0440420520

ISBN-13: 978-0440420521

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 0.7 x 6.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #596,727 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #193 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Central & South America](#) #487 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino](#) #18627 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

With nothing but positive reviews, it's not surprising that *Colibrí* was a great read. It's a well-written and engrossing novel. Told from the point of view of Tzun'ón, a 12 year-old girl, students will find it easy to connect with the young narrator. It's not a light read; instead, it offers a coming of age story that shows a young girl forced to make decisions that we would hope only adults might have to confront. Yet this is part of the power of the book. Often our students do have to deal with situations that we wish we could protect them from, but can't. Tzun'ón's journey to find out who she really is may give those students some much needed hope, and a story they can learn from and identify with. Fear is a theme throughout the novel and a powerful force in Tzun'ón's life. Often her fear controls her, but Tzun'ón must learn to conquer her fear in order to survive and live the life she desires. In our classrooms, we don't often talk about fear or how

to confront it, yet itâ€™s something many children need help with. ColibrÃ­ provides a rich opportunity to have this discussion with our students. An important struggle for TzunÃ­n is how to determine what is right or wrong, and how to make the choices that she feels are morally acceptable. Often Uncle asks her to do things that she is not okay with, but out of fear she does anyway. A significant turning point in the story takes place when TzunÃ­n chooses to no longer do Uncleâ€™s bidding. TzunÃ­n makes the choice to confront her fear and risk an unknown future on her own. In doing this, TzunÃ­n sets herself on the path to find out who she really is. Despite the fact that sheâ€™s quite young, TzunÃ­nâ€™s choices shape the path her life takes.

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