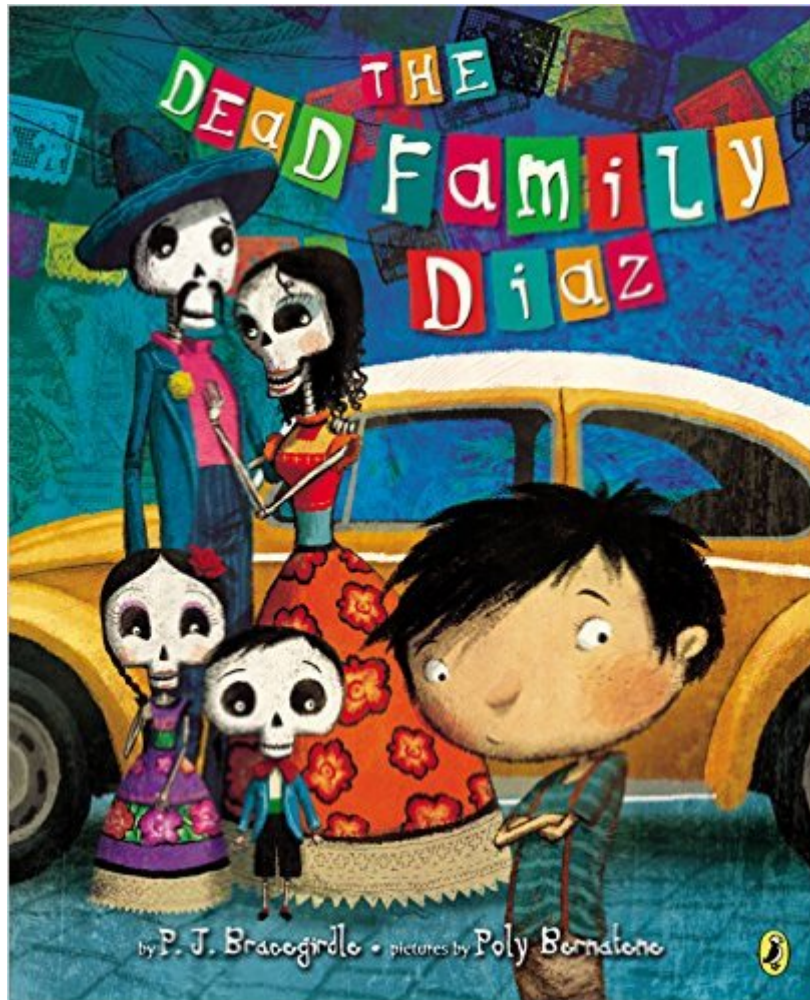


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# The Dead Family Diaz



## Synopsis

A fresh, funny take on the Day of the Dead that's packed with kid appeal! Every skeleton in the Land of the Dead is excited to celebrate el Día de los Muertos with the Living. But not Angelito. His big sister has told him all about their horrifying bulgy eyes and squishy skin. So when Angelito is separated from his family in the Land of the Living, he's petrified until he makes a new friend who is just as terrified of THEM as Angelito is. Then his new buddy turns out to be (gulp!) a living boy! Angelito runs as fast as his bony feet can carry him. Fortunately the traditions of the Day of the Dead reunite the two boys, just in time for some holiday fun. Full of wild, Tim Burton-esque art, this clever tale is sure to become un libro favorito for the Day of the Dead, Halloween season, and beyond. A colorful story about facing fears and accepting differences . . . lush and vibrantly hued . . . The ending satisfies, and the story as a whole addresses many issues pertinent to primary-grade children. • School Library Journal

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD610L (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books (June 2, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0147515580

ISBN-13: 978-0147515582

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.1 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars See all reviews (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #82,149 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Mexico #79 in Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Non-religious #1865 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

A little skeleton boy is scared of visiting the Land of the Living for the first time, because his sister has told him horrendous things about THEM. What a cute way of presenting the holiday! I was born in Mexico and grew up celebrating the Day of the Dead - something that is very precious to my

culture. I love how this book explains the purpose of this holiday in a manner that can be understood by people that do not know it very well. It also sends a great message to children about not judging others based on rumors you've heard, but to give them a chance. The vocabulary is rich and the story flows nicely. I personally loved the art, but I can see younger children or children who are completely new to the Day of the Dead feeling unsure about it, so I highly suggest talking about the holiday itself beforehand (you know, a holiday celebrated to commemorate the spirits of loved ones who've passed on). It's colorful, very true to the Mexican celebration, and a wonderful read for anyone interested in learning more about this holiday.

This is a great story set small Mexican town during the 'Day of the Dead' celebration. I'm glad I was able to share my experience with this holiday with my daughter. She enjoyed the story and even laughed a couple of times. The length & language is good for kids 4+.

We greatly enjoyed this book. I love Day of the Dead art and the illustrations here are especially magnificent. After we read the story, we spent a morning making our own Sugar Skull art--something I would recommend as a nice tie-in activity with the book.

Everyone loves it! My wife read it to my daughter's kindergarten class and it was a major hit. The illustrations are not scary and it is a great way to introduce dia de los muertos to kids of non-hispanic cultures. Highly recommended.

Loved this book. Written from the perspective of the "dead" as opposed to the "living". Very cute. I was looking for a book about Dia de Los Muertos to use w/ my students. Please be aware that none of this story is written in Spanish but does teach about this Hispanic tradition.

This is a cute story with a "don't be afraid of people who look different" message played out through a friendship between a living boy and a dead boy... very cute! My students in grades K-5 all loved it, something there for everyone.

It's time to go among the living and Angelito is not quite sure he's ready for the trip. His sister has scared him with comments of humans with big red tongues, bulging eyes, and squishy hot flesh while his parents are trying to calm him. His parent inform him for just one day very soon, they will travel up top. Up there, the Living and the Dead will come together like they do every year as

friends, to celebrate and he should not be afraid. The day arrives and the families of the Dead all gather below to the one elevator which will then take them all to the Land of the Living. The illustrator works magic on this illustration in the novel as it captures my attention. The brightness of the colors and the activities on this pages shows the enthusiasm of the Dead as they await for ride to the top to be reunited with the Living for their one day of celebration. Angelito looks sad on his way to the top as the guests are all smiles in the elevator. A car full of skeletons traveling to the world of the Living. They are warmly greeted by the Living, for everyone has dressed for this occasion in garments matching their guests. They're all wearing brightly colored garments and a skeleton face. Immediately, Angelito gets separated from his family among all the shouting and celebrating. Finding a child who looks like a someone from the Dead, Angelito asks for help. Pablo and Angelito find refuge in each other and as they devise a plan to combat the craziness that is all around them, they begin to realize the true identity of each other. The author makes an excellent point in this story and Angelito, Pablo and Estrellita learn a great lesson. I really enjoyed the illustrations in this book, they were very festive and bright. I was glad to see this holiday book as when we travel to Mexico I see many references to this holiday but not many individuals know much about it stateside. The author has included in the back of the novel a page about the holiday and its significance.

Teacher Review: A beautifully written & wonderfully illustrated book that puts a unique spin on the 'Dia de los Muertos'. I purchased and read this book to my 5th & 6th grade LLD (learning language disabled) special education English class (reading levels from Gr.1-7). The students were drawn to the gorgeous, colorful art style that so elegantly captures the unique & humorous story! It was a hit!!!

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