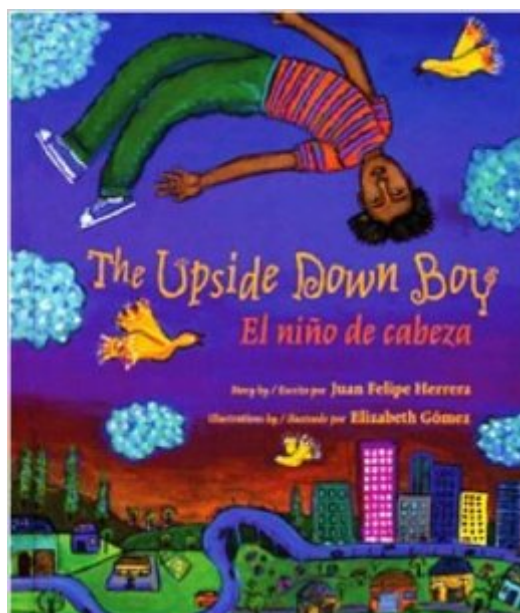


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# The Upside Down Boy: El Niño De Cabeza



## Synopsis

The Upside Down Boy is award-winning poet Juan Felipe Herrera's engaging memoir of the year his migrant family settled down so that he could go to school for the first time. Juanito is bewildered by the new school, and he misses the warmth of country life. Everything he does feels upside down. He eats lunch when it's recess; he goes out to play when it's time for lunch; and his tongue feels like a rock when he tries to speak English. But a sensitive teacher and loving family help him to find his voice and make a place for himself in this new world through poetry, art, and music. Juan Felipe Herrera's playful language and the colorful, magical art of Elizabeth G mez capture the universal experience of children entering a new school feeling like strangers in a world that seems upside down-at first.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 450 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Children's Book Press; First Trade Paper Edition edition (April 1, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0892392177

ISBN-13: 978-0892392179

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 0.2 x 9.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars   See all reviews   (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #219,918 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #89 in   Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Literary #234 in   Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures >

Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino #340 in   Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 5

## Customer Reviews

Recently, I excitingly told my young daughters we were going to wake up early and go berry picking at a â pick your ownâ  farm. My three year old exclaimed â I donâ t want to pick berries at a farm I want to pick them at a store.â  Although it was funny, it made me realize how disconnected we are as a society to our food sources and the nameless people who make it possible for us to have fresh fruits and vegetables on our tables. The stereotype of a farm worker is an adult male, but

according to the National Farmworker Ministry, there are up to 500 of children and teens (under the age of 18) hired as farm laborers in fields across the United States. Many of these young people are undocumented immigrants or are part of migrant farm working families. Unfortunately, most of these hardworking people go unnamed and unnoticed. Migrant farm workers often follow the crops to sustain employment and many of the children of migrant workers go to school during the day and work several hours as well. This lifestyle can be very disruptive to students because they move several times a year and go from classroom to classroom often not bonding with teachers or other students. One child of migrant farmers influenced by the lifestyle and work ethic instilled by his parents was Juan Felipe Herrera, a poet, performer, writer, cartoonist, teacher, and activist, who in 2015 was appointed as the nation's first Chicano poet laureate. Herrera's publications include fourteen collections of poetry, prose, short stories, young adult novels and picture books for children with twenty-one books in total published in the last decade.

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