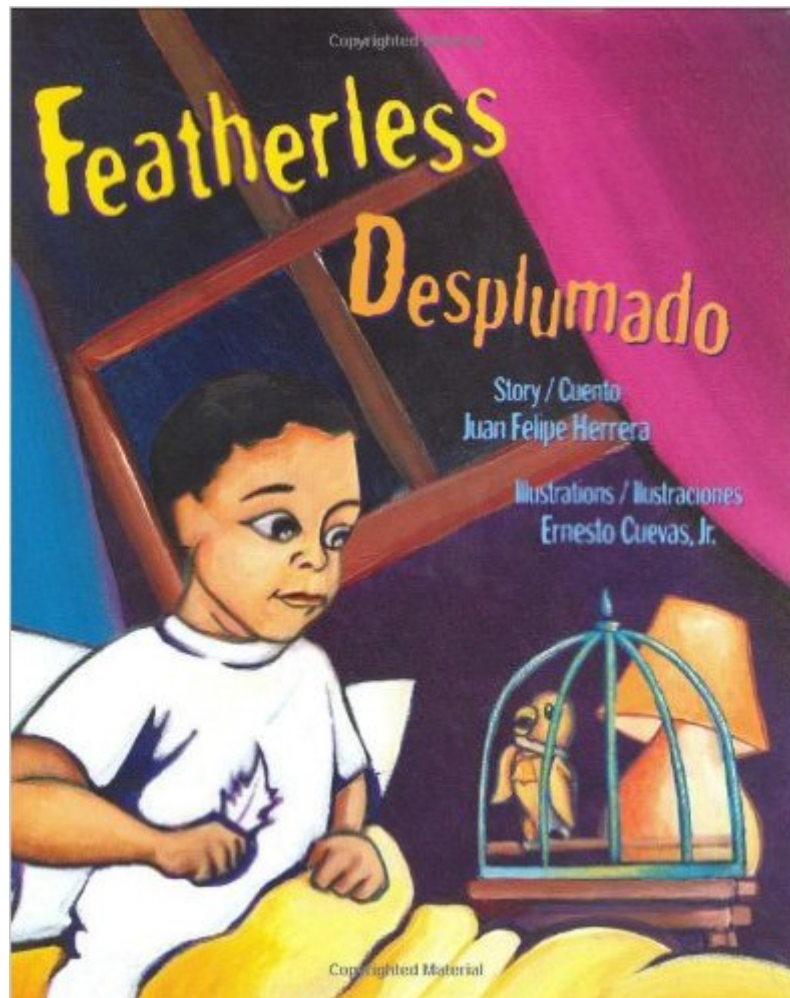


The book was found

Featherless/Desplumado



Synopsis

At his new school or on the soccer field, all everyone wants to know is why Tomasito is in a wheelchair. His father gives Tomasito a new pet to make him smile, but this bird is a little bit different. Can Tomasito's featherless friend teach him that there's more than one way to fly? Will the cheers Tomasito hears on the sidelines ever be for him? Award-winning author and poet Juan Felipe Herrera scores yet again with this sparkling story of friendship and self-empowerment. The brilliant acrylic paintings by Ernesto Cuevas, Jr., burst off the page with sheer joy.

Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Children's Book Press; Bilingual edition (June 25, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0892391952

ISBN-13: 978-0892391950

Product Dimensions: 9.9 x 8.6 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #871,337 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Children's Health > Special Needs Children](#) #277 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Diseases & Physical Ailments > Physical Impairments](#) #645 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino](#)

Age Range: 6 and up

Grade Level: 1 and up

Customer Reviews

"I want to fly like an eagle, till I'm free. Fly like an eagle, let my spirit carry me." -- Steve Miller Band, 1976
"Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles; They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary." -- Isaiah, 40:31
Tomasito, a tween (8-12) lives with his single father in a small trailer in Fresno, California. New in town from Mendota, Tomasito fears being excluded and ostracized by his peers because he has spina bifida and needs a wheelchair. To give his son some inspiration, Tomasito's father buys him a little bird. The first things Tomasito notices about the bird is that he is featherless (desplumado) and that he has a withered leg. Tomasito wonders why on earth his Papi bought him such a bird, but his wise Papi tells him that the bird CAN fly, but in a very different way. Meanwhile, on the school front,

Tomasito is coping with a new set of kids and rules. One girl, Marlana, reaches out to him and even encourages him to join the school soccer team. She sees beyond Tomasito's wheelchair and really insists that he join the team. Tomasito thinks it over and even has a dream about flying with his bird, Desplumado. Luckily, Tomasito takes Marlana's advice. He does join the soccer team and, once having spread his wings, so to speak, he in turn is able to love and reach out to his beautiful bird, the key to Tomasito tapping into his inner resources. This is a beautiful book with lovely illustrations. It is written in English and Spanish so readers can get comfortable with both languages. That is also a form of cultural sharing.

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