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El Romance De Don Gato Y Otros Cuentos Populares De America Latina



Synopsis

Here are fresh retellings of six Latin American folktales by a master storyteller. These well-loved stories are illustrated with breathtaking artwork by Lulu Delacre.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"El Romance de Don Gato" offers young readers and adults a fun way to practice Spanish while learning about folk tales from diverse Latin American nations. According to Lucia Gonzales, the reteller of these tales, many of these stories were handed down from her grandmother and her aunt in Cuba. However, what gave Ms. Gonzales the most pleasure was the similarity of these tales among persons from different and distant cultures. In addition, and perhaps not surprisingly, a number of these tales have incorporated oral traditions brought over by enslaved Africans.

Nevertheless, the themes of these tales are universal to children everywhere. The first tale is "Medio-Pollito," a story well known both in Spain and Latin America. It tells how a small chick was able to escape being part of the king's stew. The second tale is "Juan Bobo y la olla de tres patas." Juan Bobo is a popular character representing innocence, humor, and the strength of the country bumpkin; he figures prominently in Puerto Rican oral tradition. The third tale, "La Cucarachita Martina," is part of the childhood folklore of Spain and nearly every Latin American country, on par with such tales as "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" and "The Little Red Hen." A little mouse again tries to escape becoming part of a stew. This version is hails from Cuba. The fourth tale, "El Chivo en la Huerta de Hortalizas," is the tale of a goat and an ant, telling of the innocence of an elderly

couple and the funny ways in which they try to get the goat to go away from their vegetable garden. Readers of African-American folktales will recognize the fifth story, "Como Fue que Tio Conejo Engano a Tio Tigre." Tio Conejo, Brer Rabbit, is able to fool Tio Tigre.

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