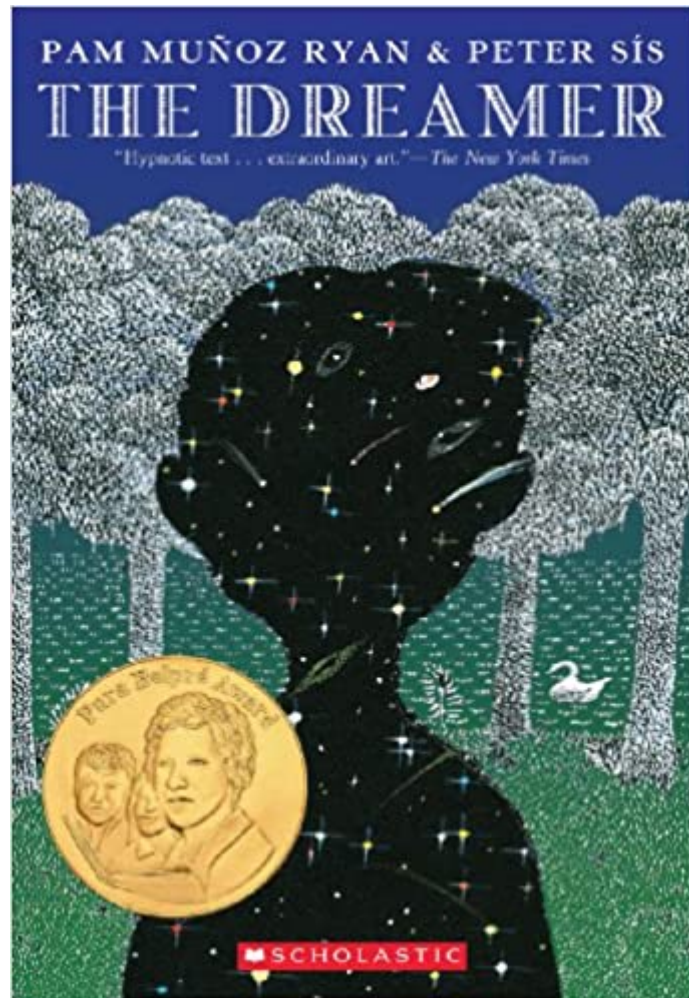




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The Dreamer



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Synopsis

Pura Belpré® Award Winner A tender, transcendent, and meticulously crafted novel from Newbery Honoree, Pam Muñoz Ryan, and three-time Caldecott Honoree, Peter Sís! From the time he is a young boy, Neftalí hears the call of a mysterious voice. Even when the neighborhood children taunt him, and when his harsh, authoritarian father ridicules him, and when he doubts himself, Neftalí knows he cannot ignore the call. He listens and follows as it leads him under the canopy of the lush rain forest, into the fearsome sea, and through the persistent Chilean rain on an inspiring voyage of self-discovery that will transform his life and, ultimately, the world. Combining elements of magical realism with biography, poetry, literary fiction, and transporting illustrations, Pam Muñoz Ryan and Peter Sís take readers on a rare journey of the heart and imagination as they explore the inspiring early life of the poet who became Pablo Neruda.

Book Information

Age Range: 9 and up

Lexile Measure: 660 (What's this?)

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks; Reprint edition (March 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0439269989

ISBN-13: 978-0439269988

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 5 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 54 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #11,872 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino #75 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies #86 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 4-9 • Readers enter the creative, sensitive mind of Pablo Neruda, the Nobel Prize-winning poet, in this beautifully written fictional biography. Ryan artfully meshes factual details with an absorbing story of a shy Chilean boy whose spirit develops and thrives despite his father's relentless negativity. Neruda, who was born Neftali Reyes, sees, hears,

and feels poetry all around him from an early age. Luckily he finds understanding and encouragement from his stepmother and his uncle, whose humanitarian and liberal attitudes toward nature and the rights of the indigenous Mapuche people greatly influence his developing opinions. In early adulthood, Reyes starts using the pseudonym by which he becomes known, taking his last name from that of a famous Czechoslovakian poet. Ryan suggests that this was how he hid his activities from his father. Her poetic prose style totally dovetails with the subject. Interspersed with the text are poems that mimic Neruda's style and push readers to think imaginatively and visually. SÃfÂ-s's whimsical pen-and-ink pointillist illustrations enliven the presentation. Each chapter is preceded by three small drawings that hint at something to come. The perfect marriage of text and art offers an excellent introduction to one of the world's most famous poets. An appended author's note gives further insight into Neruda's beliefs and accomplishments. In addition there are excerpts from several of his poems and odes. This unusual selection would be a fine companion to Deborah Kogan Ray's *To Go Singing Through the World* (Farrar, 2006).Ã¢âRenee Steinberg, formerly at Fieldstone Middle School, Montvale, NJ (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Starred Review Respinning the childhood of the widely beloved poet Pablo Neruda, Ryan and SÃfÂ-s collaborate to create a stirring, fictionalized portrait of a timid boyÃ¢âs flowering artistry. Young NeftalÃfÂ- Reyes (NerudaÃ¢âs real name) spends most of his time either dreamily pondering the world or cowering from his domineering father, who will brook no such idleness from his son. In early scenes, when the boy wanders rapt in a forest or spends a formative summer by the seashore, Ryan loads the narrative with vivid sensory details. And although it isnÃ¢ât quite poetry, it eloquently evokes the sensation of experiencing the world as someone who savors the rhythms of words and gets lost in the intricate surprises of nature. The neat squares of SÃfÂ-sÃ¢âs meticulously stippled illustrations, richly symbolic in their own right, complement and deepen the lyrical quality of the book. As NeftalÃfÂ- grows into a teen, he becomes increasingly aware of the plight of the indigenous Mapuche in his Chilean homeland, and Ryan does a remarkable job of integrating these themes of social injustice, neither overwhelming nor becoming secondary to NeftalÃfÂ-Ã¢âs story. This book has all the feel of a classic, elegant and measured, but deeply rewarding and eminently readable. Ryan includes a small collection of NerudaÃ¢âs poetry and a thoughtful endnote that delves into how she found the seeds for the story and sketches NerudaÃ¢âs subsequent life and legacy. Grades 4-8. --lan

Chipman --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Arrived in a timely manner and was as described in product description.

As an adult, and fan of Pablo Neruda, I really enjoyed The Dreamer. There are several magical interludes written by PMR that capture Neruda in interesting ways. My 5th grade students also love it and several fascinating discussions have centered on the interlude questions/poems.

Read for our middle school Book Club and really enjoyed this story.

This was a classroom purchase. I enjoyed the story and wanted my students to be able to read it. I have other books by the same author.

A great novel with many teaching opportunities.

This was one of my most enjoyable reads of the year. Pam Munoz Ryan and Peter Sis have joined forces to create a most compelling and exquisite fictional portrait of the young Chilean poet Pablo Neruda. The author's prose is as eloquent as poetry and the drawings of Sis are drawn with great thought and tenderness. My young daughter couldn't put the book down and also loved it immensely.

This book was great. The illustrations were amazing and so was the poetry. It was very deep. I liked how Neflali was created the farther you read.

As described; arrived promptly. Thanks!

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