

THE COQUÍES STILL SING

By Karina Nicole González; illustrated by Krystal Quiles

Dear reader,

My name is Karina Nicole González, author of *The Coquíes Still Sing*. I'm also a bilingual speech-language pathologist for a public school in New York City. While building a classroom library, I began searching for contemporary picture books that would resonate with my students, many of whom are from Latin America. My students savor stories that reflect their experiences and cultures. When I realized that these types of stories positively affected their engagement and comprehension, I experienced a moment of illumination. Early reading experiences are critical in fomenting a love for literature and for the wondrous world we inhabit. Soon after, I began dreaming of writing my own picture books.

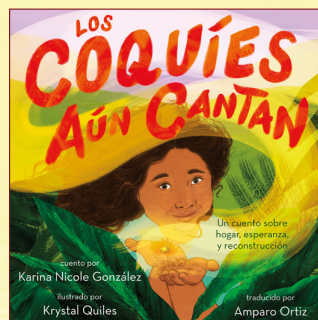
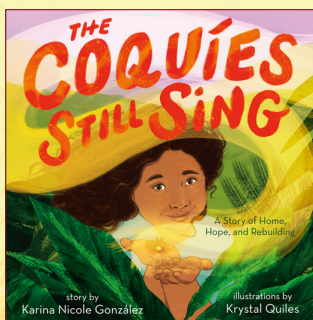
In the midst of this enlightenment, Hurricane María swept across Puerto Rico and changed the landscape and lives of Puerto Ricans forever, my family included. I engaged in fundraising efforts for grassroots organizations like Comedores Sociales and collected picture books for school children in Cataño, Puerto Rico. Several months later, I began drafting a picture book manuscript about the experiences of Puerto Ricans during this time with the hope that I could get it published one day – and in less than a month, it will be!

My debut picture book *The Coquíes Still Sing* / *Los Coquíes Aún Cantan* will be published on August 23rd, 2022 in both English and Spanish with Roaring Brook Press. The illustrator, Krystal Quiles, who is also Puerto Rican, created breathtaking illustrations that have taken this story to new heights. In fact, this project has been spearheaded by a team of Puerto Rican women, which is notable in its own right.

I hope that this story cultivates a love for humanity and for our precious environment.

With love,

Karina Nicole González



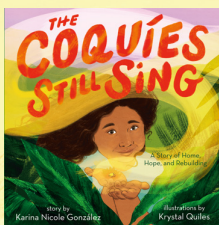
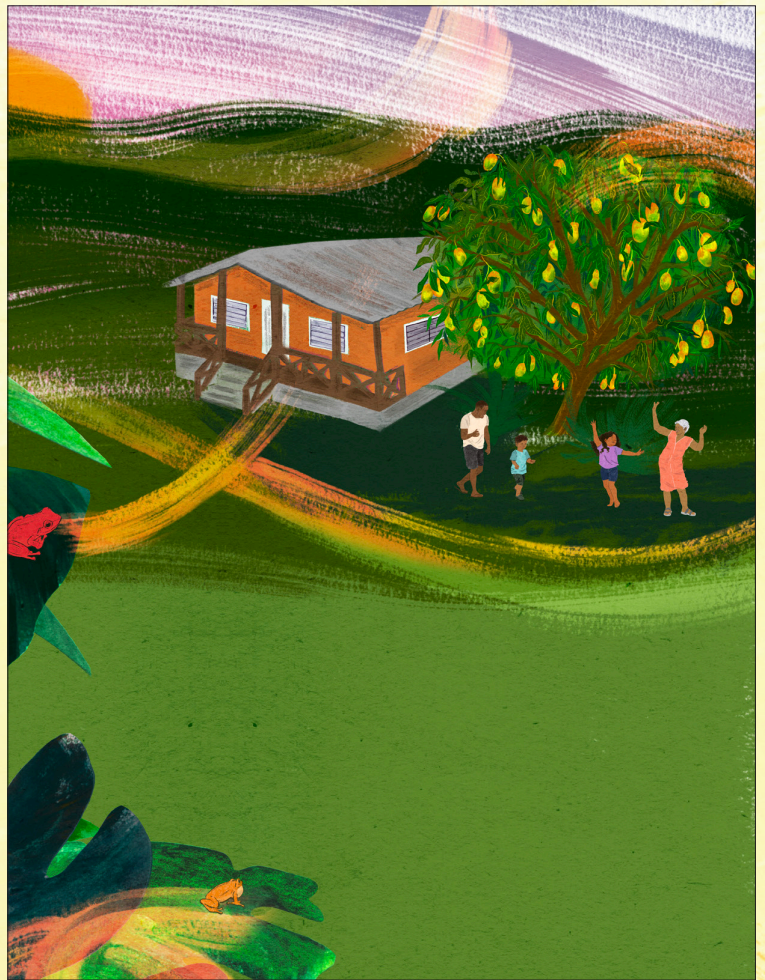
Roaring Brook Press

An imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group
KarinaNikole.com | MacKidsSchoolandLibrary.com

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SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Elena is outside with her family, listening to the coquí sing.
Can you spot four differences between the two images below?



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