

Mi sueño de América

My American Dream



YULIANA GALLEGOS

Mi sueño de América

My American Dream

POR / BY

YULIANA GALLEGOS

TRADUCCIÓN AL INGLÉS POR /
ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY GEORGINA BAEZA



PIÑATA BOOKS
ARTE PÚBLICO PRESS
HOUSTON, TEXAS

Mi sueño de América ha sido subvencionado por la ciudad de Houston a través del Houston Arts Alliance.

My American Dream is made possible through grants from the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance.

¡Piñata Books están llenos de sorpresas!
Piñata Books are full of surprises!

Piñata Books
An imprint of
Arte Público Press
University of Houston
452 Cullen Performance Hall
Houston, Texas 77204-2004

Cover design and illustration by Mora Des!gn
Inside illustrations by Joe Villarreal
Copyright © 2007 University of Houston/Arte Público Press
and its licensors. All Rights reserved.

Gallegos, Yuliana.

Mi sueño de America / por Yuliana Gallegos; traducción al inglés de Georgina Baeza = *My American dream* / by Yuliana Gallegos; English translation by Georgina Baeza.

p. cm.

ISBN 978-1-55885-534-2 (alk. paper)

1. Mexican Americans—Texas—Houston—Juvenile literature. 2. Mexican Americans—Juvenile literature. 3. Mexico—Emigration and immigration—Juvenile literature. 4. United States—Emigration and immigration—Juvenile literature. I. Baeza, Georgina. II. Title. III. Title: *My American dream*.

E184.M5G335 2007

976.4'14110046872—dc22

2007019237
CIP

The paper used in this publication meets the requirements of the American National Standard for Information Sciences—Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48-1984.

© 2007 by Yuliana Gallegos
My American Dream © 2007 Arte Público Press
Printed in the United States of America

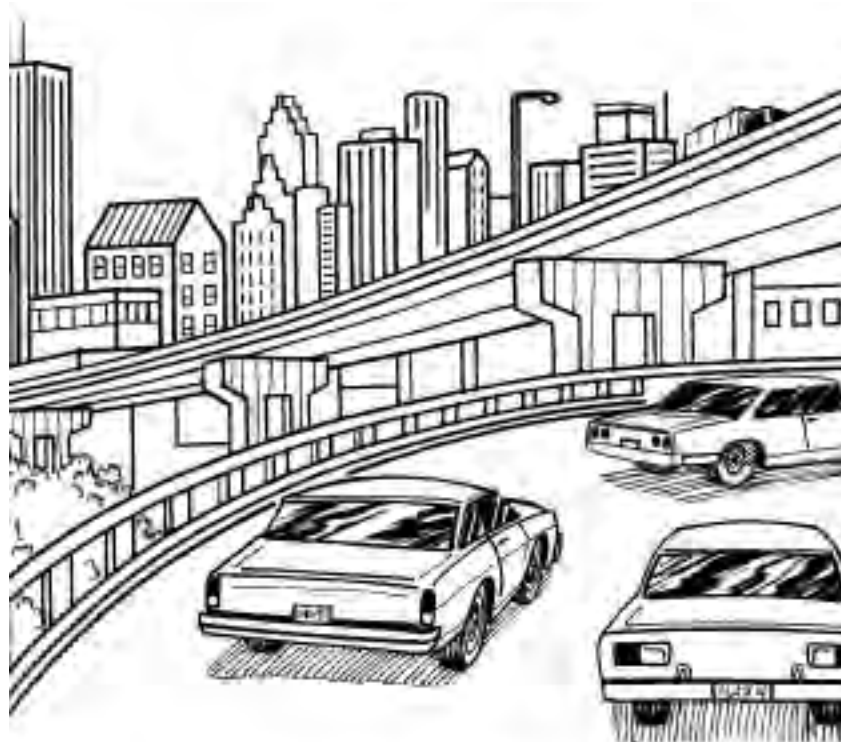
8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

Con mucho cariño para todos los niños inmigrantes



With much love to all immigrant children



Recuerdo aquella tarde cuando estábamos llegando a la ciudad de Houston, Texas. La recuerdo como si hubiera sido ayer. Yo estaba muy emocionada. Veía unas carreteras muy grandes. Me parecían impresionantes, unas altas y de repente otras bajas. Me sentía como en la montaña rusa. Papá nos dijo que estas carreteras aquí se conocen como *freeways*. Los carros, de muchos tamaños y colores, corrían a gran velocidad, como si estuvieran en una carrera de autos.

Aunque yo venía de Monterrey, Nuevo León, México, una ciudad muy grande, definitivamente Houston era muy diferente. El centro de Monterrey tiene una plaza grande, siempre llena de gente, un barrio antiguo con edificios viejos y coloniales. En cambio, el centro de Houston parecía un mundo del futuro, lleno de rascacielos envueltos en vidrio y espejos, con muy pocas personas caminando por las calles.



I remember that evening when we were arriving in Houston, Texas. I remember it as if it were yesterday. I was very excited. I saw huge highways that were impressive. Some high and some really low. I felt as if I were on a roller coaster. Papá told us that those highways were known as “freeways.” Cars of all sizes and colors sped by as if they were in a race.

Although I was moving from Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico, a large city, it was definitely very different from Houston. The downtown area of Monterrey has a huge plaza that is always filled with people and an old neighborhood with ancient, colonial buildings. Downtown Houston, on the other hand, seemed like the world of the future, full of skyscrapers wrapped in glass and mirrors, with hardly any people walking in the streets.