

Muffler Man

El hombre mofle



By/Por Tito Campos

Illustrations by/Ilustraciones por
Lamberto & Beto Alvarez



Muffler Man

El hombre mofle



By/Por Tito Campos

Illustrations By/Ilustraciones por

Lamberto & Beto Alvarez

Spanish Translation By/Traducción al español por

Evangelina Vigil-Piñon



Piñata Books
Arte Publico Press
Houston, Texas 77204-2174

Publication of *Muffler Man* is made possible through support from the Lila Wallace—Readers Digest Fund, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the City of Houston through The Cultural Arts Council of Houston, Harris County. We are grateful for their support.

Esta edición de *El hombre mofle* ha sido subvencionada por la Fundación Lila Wallace—Readers Digest, la Fundación Andrew W. Mellon y el Concilio de Artes Culturales de Houston, Condado de Harris. Les agradecemos su apoyo.

Piñata Books are full of surprises!

Piñata Books
An Imprint of Arte Público Press
University of Houston
Houston, Texas 77204-2174

Campos, Tito.

Muffler man / by Tito Campos; illustrations by Lamberto Alvarez and Beto Alvarez; Spanish translation by Evangelina Vigil-Piñón = El hombre mofle / por Tito Campos; ilustraciones por Lamberto y Beto Alvarez; traducción al español por Evangelina Vigil-Piñón.

p. cm.

Summary: Chuy works hard at the muffler shop to earn enough money to join his father in America, where together they create an army of "muffler men," statues made from old muffler parts, that they scatter around the city.

ISBN 978-1-55885-318-8

[1. Fathers and sons—Fiction. 2. Sculpture—Fiction. 3. Mexican Americans—Fiction. 4. Spanish language materials—Bilingual.] I. Title: Hombre mofle.

II. Alvarez, Lamberto and Beto Alvarez, ill. III. Vigil-Piñón, Evangelina. IV. Title. PZ73.C344 2001

[E]—dc21

00-053735

CIP

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

Text Copyright © 2001 by Tito Campos
Illustrations Copyright © 2001 by Lamberto and Beto Alvarez

8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

*To my beloved mother,
your everlasting love remains with me although you do not.*
—TC

*To my son, Beto:
our mutual admiration and interests have made us best of friends.*
—LA



*Para mi querida madre,
tu amor eterno permanece conmigo aunque tú no.*
—TC

*Para mi hijo, Beto,
cuya admiración e intereses mutuos nos han convertido en los mejores amigos.*
—LA

Ever since Chuy García could remember, he had dreamed of going to the United States. Many of Chuy's friends and relatives had left Mexico in search of a better life up north.

Last year, before making his own journey to the United States, Chuy's father had bought a broom.

"There's so much money up there, you can sweep it up off the street!" Mr. García had told him.

Young Chuy's eyes sparkled, and his imagination soared as he listened to stories of a better life awaiting them in the United States.

"And when I save up enough money, I will send for you and your mother," Mr. García had told his son. Chuy still remembered his father's words as if they had been spoken yesterday.



Desde que Chuy García recordaba, él había soñado con irse a los Estados Unidos. Muchos de sus amigos y parientes se habían ido de México en busca de una mejor vida en el norte.

El año pasado, antes de su propio viaje a los Estados Unidos, el papá de Chuy se había comprado una escoba.

—Hay tanto dinero allá, que hasta se puede barrer de las calles —le había dicho el Señor García.

Al pequeño Chuy le brillaban los ojos y su imaginación volaba mientras escuchaba los cuentos sobre la excelente vida que les esperaba en los Estados Unidos.

—Y cuando ahorre bastante dinero, mandaré por ti y por tu mamá —dijo el Señor García a su hijo. Chuy aún recordaba las palabras de su papá como si las hubiera dicho ayer.

