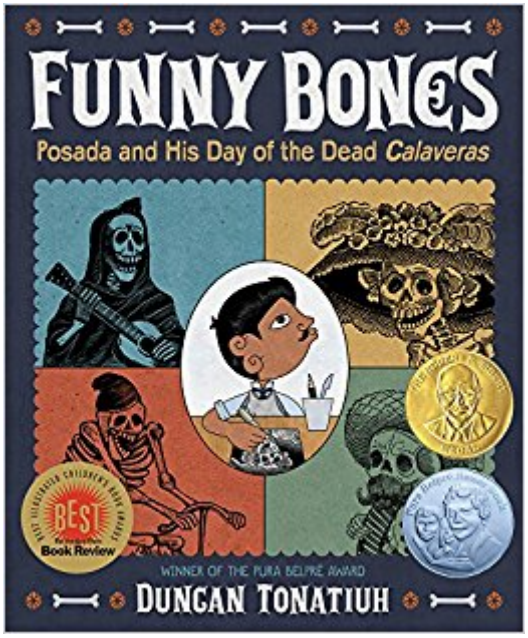
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Funny Bones: Posada And His Day Of The Dead Calaveras (Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal (Awards))



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Synopsis

A Sibert Award Winner, Pura BelprÃƒÂ© (Illustrator) Honor Book, New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Books of 2015 and International Latino Book Award Finalist! Funny Bones tells the story of how the amusing calaverasÃ¢â ¬â •skeletons performing various everyday or festive activitiesÃ¢â ¬â •came to be. They are the creation of Mexican artist JosÃƒÂ© Guadalupe (Lupe) Posada (1852Ã¢â ¬â œ1913). In a country that was not known for freedom of speech, he first drew political cartoons, much to the amusement of the local population but not the politicians. He continued to draw cartoons throughout much of his life, but he is best known today for his calavera drawings. They have become synonymous with MexicoÃ¢â ¬â„¢s DÃƒÂ- a de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) festival. Juxtaposing his own art with that of LupeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s, author Duncan Tonatiuh brings to light the remarkable life and work of a man whose art is beloved by many but whose name has remained in obscurity. The book includes an authorÃ¢â ¬â„¢s note, bibliography, glossary, and index.

Book Information

Series: Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal (Awards)
Hardcover: 40 pages
Publisher: Harry N. Abrams (August 25, 2015)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1419716476
ISBN-13: 978-1419716478
Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.3 x 11 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 22 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #44,776 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Mexico #29 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Art #34 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Non-religious
Age Range: 6 - 10 years
Grade Level: 1 - 5

Customer Reviews

Gr 3Ã¢â ¬â œ6Ã¢â ¬â •Tonatiuh's latest delves into the life of artist and social commentator extraordinaire JosÃƒÂ© Guadalupe Posada, best known for his literary calaveras, brief and amusing rhyming poems about skeletons dressed in clothes, going about their daily business. The

beautifully expressive Day of the Dead-inspired illustrations on heavy paper pages sport borders of bones, grinning skeletons, and Tonatiuh’s signature figures shown in profile, influenced by the ancient Mexican art of his ancestors. Simple yet effective sentences accompany step-by-step images detailing the artistic processes that Posada learned as a printer’s apprentice: lithography, engraving, and etching. Reproductions of Posada’s calaveras will help children appreciate Posada’s passion for his profession, such as the broadside "Calavera Love," which depicts a gentleman skeleton proposing marriage; the poem concludes, "I am sorry, SeÃƒÂ or. But that cannot be./You’re handsome and all,/but too skinny for me!" Tonatiuh explains the poetry, posing questions about the artist’s intentions and adding historical context, explaining the calaveras that Posada created in response to the Mexican Revolution. Extensive back matter includes links where students can see Posada’s original work and an author’s note that suggests using the calaveras "to learn and celebrate el Dia de Muertos." VERDICT A stunning work, with great possibilities for lesson plans or tie-ins with Day of the Dead.Ã¢â ¬â •Toby Rajput, National Louis University, Skokie, IL

"Tonatiuh further marks himself as a major nonfiction talent with this artistically beautiful and factually accessible offering that effectively blends artistic and political content for young readers." (Kirkus Reviews)STARRED REVIEW "Playful but informative, this picture book offers a fascinating introduction to the artist and his work." (Booklist)"The beautifully expressive Day of the DeadÃ¢â ¬â œinspired illustrations on heavy paper pages sport borders of bones, grinning skeletons, and TonatiuhÃ¢â ¬â„¢s signature figures shown in profile, influenced by the ancient Mexican art of his ancestors... A stunning work, with great possibilities for lesson plans or tie-ins with Day of the Dead." (School Library Journal)

The illustrations in Funny Bones are so whimsical, and macabre- I love it. I purchased this for my mother, a fourth grade teacher, and she is so excited to share this with her class for Cinco de Mayo. Because of the bold illustrations and cultural story line, I believe this book is versatile for many age groups. I bought this book because it was on the New York Times Best list for Illustrations in 2015.

This is a beautifully illustrated and informative book. The material is easy to understand and yet not patronizing. The fact that the illustrations are in the style of MesoAmerican artwork just makes it more endearing to me. Explaining the evolution of Posada’s skill, the techniques he learned were parts of his story I had not previously known. I look forward to getting more books by Tonatiuh to share with my family in years to come.

DT’s Funny Bones was a hit at our school’s family literacy night. It was an informative story that was fun to read and share with students and parents alike. It seemed everyone knew about sugar skulls but nobody knew the story of the creator, Don Lupe. Great for bilingual readers at home or in school.

We ÃƒÂ¢Ã Â•Ã Â¤ÃƒÂ Ã Â¸Ã Â• this book! We celebrated by using foam printmaking to make DÃƒÂ- a de los Muertos designs after learning about Posada and his Catrina/other prints. The info made Posada Elem appropriate and brought up adult issues using child language and concepts. Great for Day of the Dead fun!
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Another picture book whose copy was illegible on my iPad. Frustrating as this is a terrific book I wanted to share with many other teachers.

This book doesn’t flow well and it doesn’t hold kids’ attention in my experience. I appreciate the history though.

What a beautifully designed tribute to Master Guadalupe Posada. A colorful and accurate addition to any school library.

Beautiful illustrations and little-known story.

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