

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Secret Door**

**A Martinez Kids Adventures Book**

Written and Illustrated by  
Minda Gomez



***The Secret Door* is a colorful, magical chapter book, featuring bilingual heroes, that will capture children's imaginations and spark conversations for families.**

## Multigenerational, bicultural family and neighbors



## Three exciting adventures in one book!



### Minneapolis, MN, USA

Immerse yourself in the world of the Martinez Kids, three spunky, bilingual, Mexican-American children who have wild adventures!

Their elderly neighbor Don Toño invites their family to join him in testing his virtual reality invention (hidden in an inconspicuous garden shed), which allows them to experience life as

animals. Join the kids as they scamper through the trees as squirrels, swim through the oceans as marine animals, and swing through a Mexican rainforest as spider monkeys.

This colorful, illustrated chapter book will capture the imaginations of children. It is great for kids to read on their own, and is also a wonderful family read-aloud that will spark conversations about important themes. As the characters navigate situations like peer pressure and the temptation to steal, their experiences in real life and in the animal world will lead them to draw their own conclusions. Readers can go to [www.mindagomez.com](http://www.mindagomez.com) for discussion questions to guide their family's conversations after reading each adventure.

In addition, this book offers a fascinating glimpse into a bicultural Mexican-American family where English and Spanish blend naturally. Their Papi and neighbors Don Toño and Doña Rosa are positive examples of Mexicans living in the United States. The book comes with a glossary to help with pronunciations and meanings. At the end, find an easy recipe for quesadillas that families can make together!

Children and adults alike will be intrigued by this unique take on animals, culture, values, and imagination!

#### **Excerpt from Reader's Favorite Review:**

"Minda Gomez's early chapter book, *The Secret Door*, is the first book in the Martinez Kids Adventures series. The author explores the realm of what-if scenarios and creates a series of imaginary adventures that will definitely appeal to young readers. With boldly colorful illustrations and written in simple language with lots of dialogue, this is a great early reader for those still learning to read. As young readers learn exciting ways to explore the world around them with their own imaginations, they will also learn about a wide variety of living creatures: how and where they live, what they eat, what they do every day and so much more. The most significant lessons presented in this story are those that relate to family values and caring for others. This is an engaging, entertaining, and educational book that will appeal to the young and the young at heart."

#### **What readers are saying:**

"This is a wonderful read-aloud for bicultural children."

"Beautifully written for kids! All ages will enjoy the dialogue, adventures and life lessons learned by Rico, Diego, and Araceli. Plus, what kid wouldn't mind trying such a fun 'virtual reality' invention?"

"Frankly, the part my kids enjoyed the most was the virtual reality with the fun animal adventures. I mean, what kid hasn't imagined what it would be like to swing through the trees like a monkey or swim in the ocean like a sea creature? So. Much. Fun."

**Minda Gomez** lives in Minnesota with her husband Moisés and their three spunky bilingual kids. Their family has created their own brand of "Mexigringo" as they blend their Papi's Mexican culture with their Mami's Minnesotan culture.

Minda has her M.Ed. in ESL and is a teacher of English Learners at a local elementary school. She has taught second grade in Mexico and volunteered in Guatemala, Peru, and other parts of Latin America.

Minda is passionate about teaching children to be proud of their bilingual superpowers. She is hopeful that her readers and her own kids will identify with the Martinez family, and remember that speaking more than one language is one of the many things that can make a kid special.

### Book Info

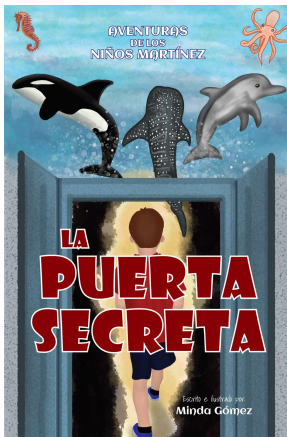
#### *The Secret Door*

Siblings / Fantasy / Diversity / Hispanic / Bilingualism / Values / 5-11 years old

Softcover, 6 x 9 inches, 115 pages

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### Spanish Translation



#### *La puerta secreta*

Softcover, 6 x 9 inches, 115 pages

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Youtube: Martinez Kids Adventures

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