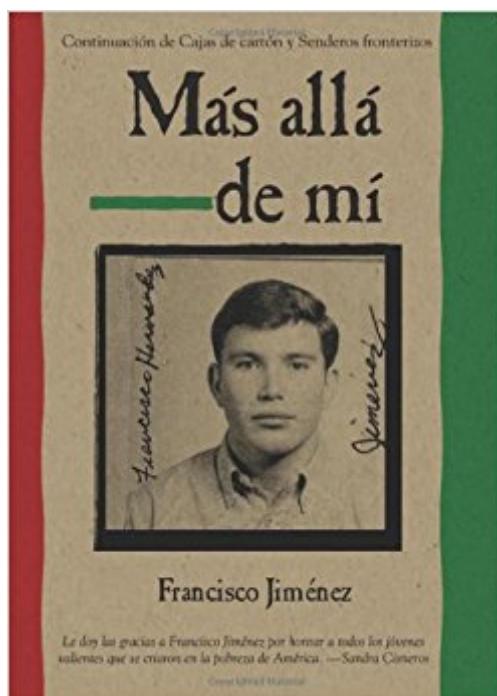


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# Mas Alla De Mi Reaching Out Spanish Edition



## Synopsis

From the perspective of the young adult he once was, Francisco Jimenez describes the challenges he faces when continuing his education. During his college years, the very family solidarity that allows Francisco to survive as a child is tested. Not only must he leave his family when he goes to Santa Clara University, but while Francisco is there, his father abandons the family and returns to Mexico. This is the story of how Francisco copes with poverty, with his guilt over leaving his family financially strapped, with his self-doubt about succeeding academically, and with separation. Once again, his telling is honest and true—and inspiring.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 910 (What's this?)

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (September 7, 2009)

Language: Spanish

ISBN-10: 0547250312

ISBN-13: 978-0547250311

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.6 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #76,044 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Homelessness & Poverty #9 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Biographical > United States #11 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Emigration & Immigration

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Grade 8 Up In this touching memoir, the author relates how he and his family illegally immigrated to the United States and were later returned to Mexico. Not giving up, he and his older brother came back again, followed by their family; several years later they were granted legal residence. Through much sacrifice from all members of the family, Jiménez attended university, where he met people who encouraged him to go beyond an undergraduate degree. Despite facing financial, health, and other issues, the author shows what he was able to accomplish with the unity and undivided love of his family. Photographs add warmth to the book by putting faces to the

characters for whom readers develop deep appreciation. A testament to a strong faith in God and in JimÃfÃ©nezÃfÃcÃfâ ¡Ãfâ "s talent, written in a relaxed manner, this is a most uplifting read.Ãfâ ¬â œNarda McCarthy, Para Los NiÃfÃ os Consultant, Weston, FL Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

2009 Pura Belpre HonorÃ Â A Â A Â Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People 2009"This sequel to *The Circuit* (1997) and *Breaking Through* (2001), which covered Mexican-born Jimenez's childhood, takes Francisco through his college years at the University of Santa Clara. After long years working in California fields and living in labor camps, Francisco is the first in his family to attend college, and this volume is a tribute to all first-generation college students and the many people who made a difference in Francisco's own life. As he says to his family at graduation, "We all did it." It's a bittersweet story, though, as Francisco frequently feels guilty at the sacrifices made on his behalf, and even as he heads to Columbia University for graduate studies on a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, he yearns for stability in his life and a place to call home. While the first two volumes felt as though they were collections of autobiographical short stories, this is a more linear and straightforward autobiographical novel, simply and eloquently told. An inspiring account of a remarkable journey." (July 15th, 2008) (Kirkus Reviews )\*"So now you think you're better than us because you are going to college!" Papa's raging depression intensifies young Jimenez's personal guilt and conflict in the 1960s. He is the first in his Mexican American migrant family to attend college in California. While at home, the family struggles with backbreaking work and lives without indoor plumbing; in college, Jimenez finds friends and mentors in class and at church, discovers the great literature in his native Spanish language, and joins Cesar Chavez in the drive to unionize farm workers. Like his landmark books *The Circuit* (1997) and *Breaking Through* (2001), this sequel tells his personal story in clear, simple, self-contained chapters that join together in a stirring narrative. As he works many jobs to send something home, he is haunted by memories of his childhood spent laboring in the fields and cleaning offices, and in college, he tells no one that he was born in Mexico and is not an American citizen. Rooted in the past, Jimenez's story is also about the continuing struggle to make it in America, not only for immigrant kids but also for those in poor families who struggle to break free. Never melodramatic or self-important, the spare episodes will draw readers with the quiet daily detail of work, anger, sorrow, and hope." (Booklist, starred review -Hazel Rochman ) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I've found all three books in this series good for learning Spanish. The stories are engaging. The vocabulary is "Goldilocks" not too hard, not too easy, just right. For me, about 500 new words a book. Means some pages i could make it through fairly easily, others were harder, but none were impossible. Not too many idioms. I read the books on an iPad with the Collins dictionary app. Simply highlight any words you don't know, then copy the definition into the notes for later review. Then I use a flashcard program to practice the words. Also, make friends with some native speakers so when you run across an idiom you can figure it out. Helps to eat lots of Mexican food as well!

This book is good for those studying Spanish in that the vocabulary and sentence construction are relatively easy. The story itself, however, is a bit boring as the author spends too much time describing relatively mundane details of daily life.

I really enjoyed the entire trilogy. This was also a great way to improve my Spanish. The storyline includes vocabulary of daily living as well as vocabulary around education and farming. The storyline is fairly linear so it is easy to follow if Spanish is your second language. I also gained a deeper understanding of the experience of immigrants. Plus, I downloaded a Spanish dictionary onto my Kindle so that I could touch a word that I didn't know and get an immediate translation.

Francisco Jimenez entered the United States as a youngster with his parents who were seeking a better life for the family. They lived in incredible poverty, moving around California, picking agricultural crops. Francisco did not get to go to school until the end of the season each year, often November. His persistence and hard work offered him the opportunity to rise out of poverty to get an education, help his family, and focus on the problems of farm worker conditions.

A wonderful and true story that can also apply to many immigrants today.

I liked the book and the author's ability to clearly explain the difficulties of assimilating into another culture and appreciated the fact that he realized the only way his life in a new country would be satisfactory was if he did assimilate. He managed to do that and still maintain a love of his own culture. It is a good course book. Would not be on my top list for entertainment reading

This book, a finalization of the trilogy, leaves one feeling inspired, hopefully and in awe of the difficulties that were overcome. Was lucky enough to meet the author and his wife when they came

to Hood River as part of Hood River reads. This is one truly awesome person. Wish he would write more.

Sweet story. I can't wait until his fourth book is in Spanish too.

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