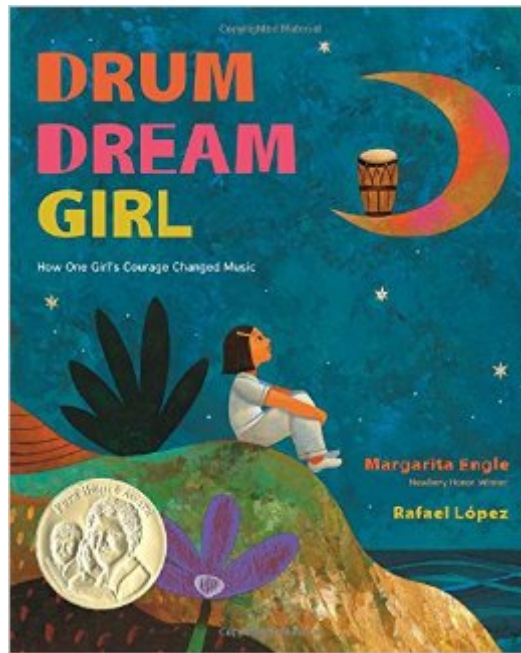


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# Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl's Courage Changed Music



## Synopsis

Girls cannot be drummers. Long ago on an island filled with music, no one questioned that rule until the drum dream girl. In her city of drumbeats, she dreamed of pounding tall congas and tapping small bongos. She had to keep quiet. She had to practice in secret. But when at last her dream-bright music was heard, everyone sang and danced and decided that both girls and boys should be free to drum and dream. Inspired by the childhood of Millo Castro Zaldarriaga, a Chinese-African-Cuban girl who broke Cuba's traditional taboo against female drummers, *Drum Dream Girl* tells an inspiring true story for dreamers everywhere.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (March 31, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0544102290

ISBN-13: 978-0544102293

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.4 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (26 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #16,735 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Central & South America #6 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Musical #14 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

López's stunning illustrations complement Engle's lyrical prose in a culmination of female empowerment and pride. As illustrator López dedicates the book to his architect mother, Pilo, whose courage opened the ceiling above her dreams, readers are reminded of the strength and brilliance of older generations of women, paving the way towards freedom and rights for younger generations. This book strongly resonates with the legacy of women's rights and empowerment throughout history, in the Americas and beyond. *Drum Dream Girl* is based on the true story of Millo Castro Zaldarriaga, a Chinese-African-Cuban girl living in the 1930s who successfully struggled against the social stigma for female drummers, becoming one of Cuba's great, historic

musicians. Engle narrates the tale through concise, lyrical writing, consistent with her style of fusing poetry and prose: â œBut everyone/ on the island of music/ in the city of drumbeats/ believed that only boys/ should play drums/ so the drum dream girl/ had to keep dreaming/ quiet/ secret/ drumbeat/ dreams.â • This style is both easy for younger readers to follow and digest, and lyrically pleasing for older readers or adults. Millo is a talented drummer whose father wonâ™t let her pursue her dream since drumming is only for boys. However, Milloâ™s brilliance is so big that it becomes increasingly harder to ignore her potential. With some help from inspirational teachers and mentors, and her older sisterâ™s all-girl music band, Millo is eventually able to conquer these obstacles and freely express her love for music: â œwhere everyone who heard/ her dream-bright music/ sang/ and danced/ and decided/ that girls should always/ be allowed to play/ drums/ and both girls and boys/ should feel free/ to dream.

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