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The Race Of Toad And Deer





Synopsis

In this second book by the Latina pair, Pat Mora has created a poetic adaptation of the Maya version of the much-loved fable of the tortoise and the hare. The arrogant deer who boasts of his strength and speed is finally challenged to a race by the wily toad. While all the wondrous animals of the jungle - jaguar, tapir, armadillo and toucan - gathered around to watch, the toad makes a plan. He may not be as large as Venado, but he is very clever and has many friends to help him. In the end, Sapo defeats the deer, proving the value of brain over brawn. This version of the story was passed down by Don Fernado Tesucun, a Maya-Itzaj man who worked on the excavations of the ruins of Tikal. The rich and beautiful collaboration between Pat Mora and Domi perfectly exemplifies the value of artisits' retelling of stories from their own cultures.

Book Information

Age Range: 3 and up

Library Binding

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Customer Reviews

In The Race Of Toad And Deer, American Latina author Pat Mora has deftly written a poetic adaptation of the Mayan version of the tortoise and hare fable specifically designed for children ages 2 to 5. The arrogant deer Venado boasts of his strength and speed. The wily toad Sapo challenges deer to a race. All the jungle animals (jaguar, tapir, armadillo, and toucan) watch the race take place. Toad may not be as large as Venado, but he has many friends to help him. Sapo wins the race and proves the value of brains over brawn while doing so. Domi's wonderful artwork is the perfect enhancement for Mora's entertaining and highly recommended version of a classic Mayan folktale for children.

I got this for my 2 year old Guatemalan adopted daughter. It is a great addition for her collection of books and means a lot that it is a Guatemalan variation of a well known theme.

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