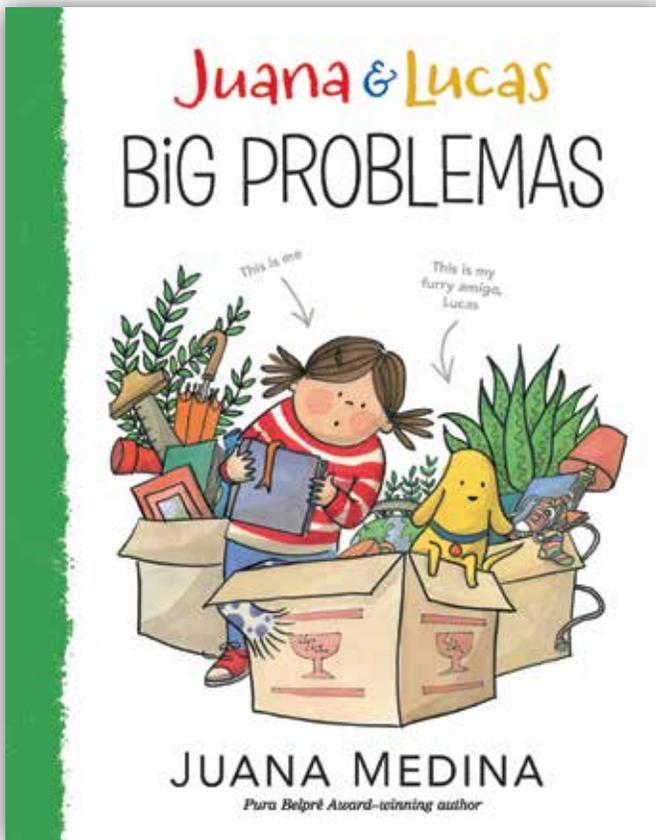




# Juana & Lucas

## BIG PROBLEMAS



HC: 978-1-5362-0131-4



### About the Book

Juana's life is just about perfect. She lives in the beautiful city of Bogotá with her two most favorite people in the world: her *mami* and her dog, Lucas. Lately, though, things have become a little less perfect. Mami has a new hairdo and a new *amigo* named Luis with whom she has been spending a LOT of time. He is kind and teaches Juana about things like photography and jazz music, but sometimes Juana can't help wishing things would go back to the way they were before. When Mami announces that she and Luis are getting married and that they will all be moving to a new *casa*, Juana is quite distraught. Lucky for her, though, some things will never change—like how much Mami loves her. Based on author-illustrator Juana Medina's own childhood in Colombia, this joyful series is sure to resonate with readers of all ages.

### About the Creator



photo by Silvia Baptiste

**Juana Medina** was born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia. She is the illustrator of *Smick!* by Doreen Cronin and *Lena's Shoes Are Nervous: A First-Day-of-School Dilemma* by Keith Calabrese. Juana Medina is also the author-illustrator of *1 Big Salad*, *Sweet Shapes*, and *Juana & Lucas*, which won the 2017 Pura Belpré Author Award. She currently lives with her family in Mexico.

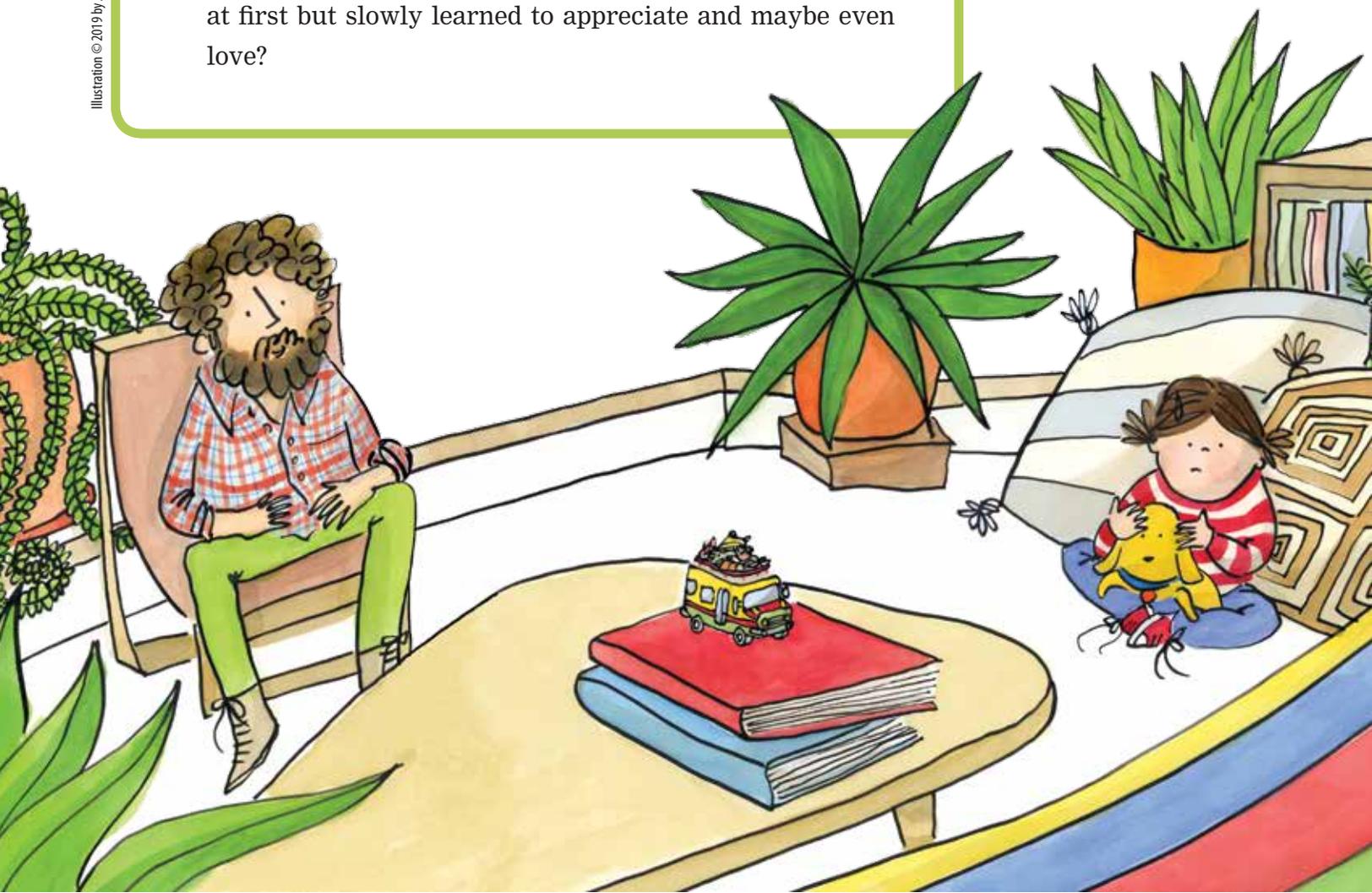


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Illustrations © 2019 by Juana Medina

## Discussion Questions

1. When the story begins, Juana describes why her life is perfect. What are the parts of her life that she loves most?
2. Some parts of Juana's life change during *Juana & Lucas: Big Problemas*. What are one or two things that shift throughout the story?
3. What are some Spanish words you learned while reading *Juana & Lucas: Big Problemas*? Were you able to figure out what they meant from the pictures or context clues?
4. How does Mami's new friend, Luis, make Juana feel? What are some things Juana likes about Luis?
5. Have you ever confronted a situation that you didn't love at first but slowly learned to appreciate and maybe even love?



# Group Activity



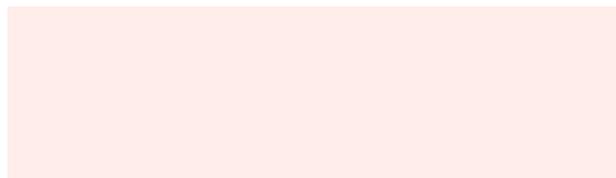
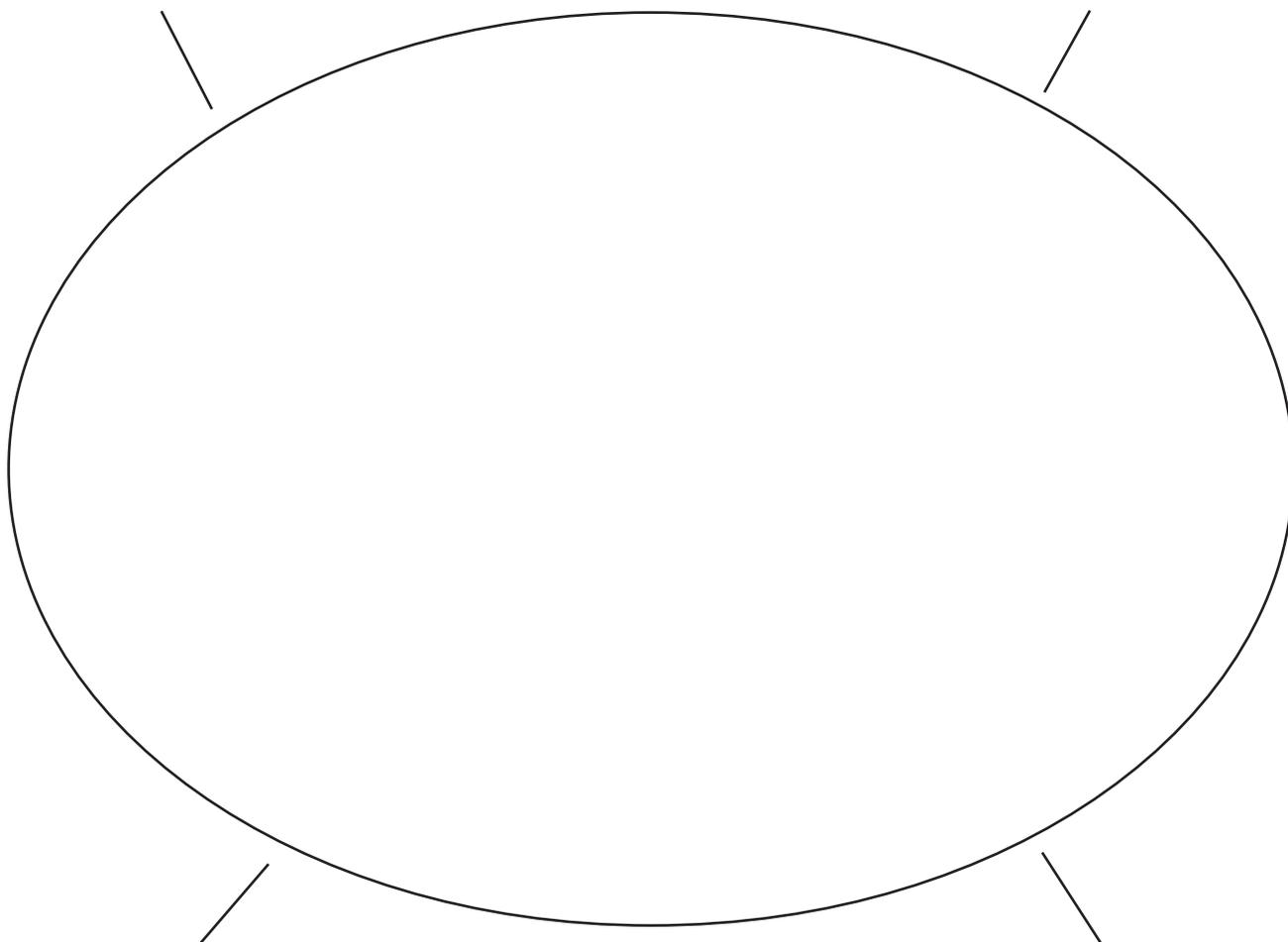
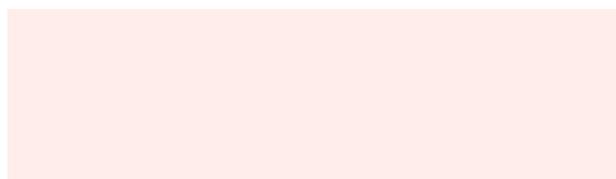
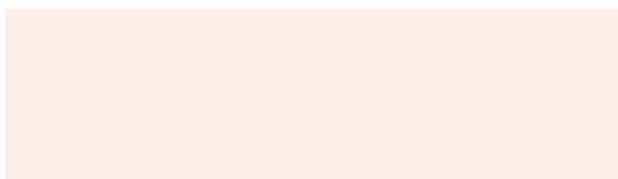
Juana loves her dog, Lucas; her *mami*; and the soup *ajiaco*.

As a group, talk about some of your favorite people or things in your life. What do you like about them? What makes them special?

After your discussion, draw a picture of a special person or thing in your life and label it with what you like best about them or it.

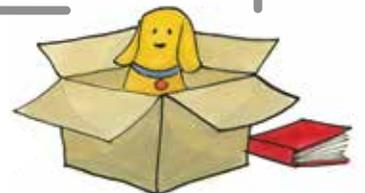
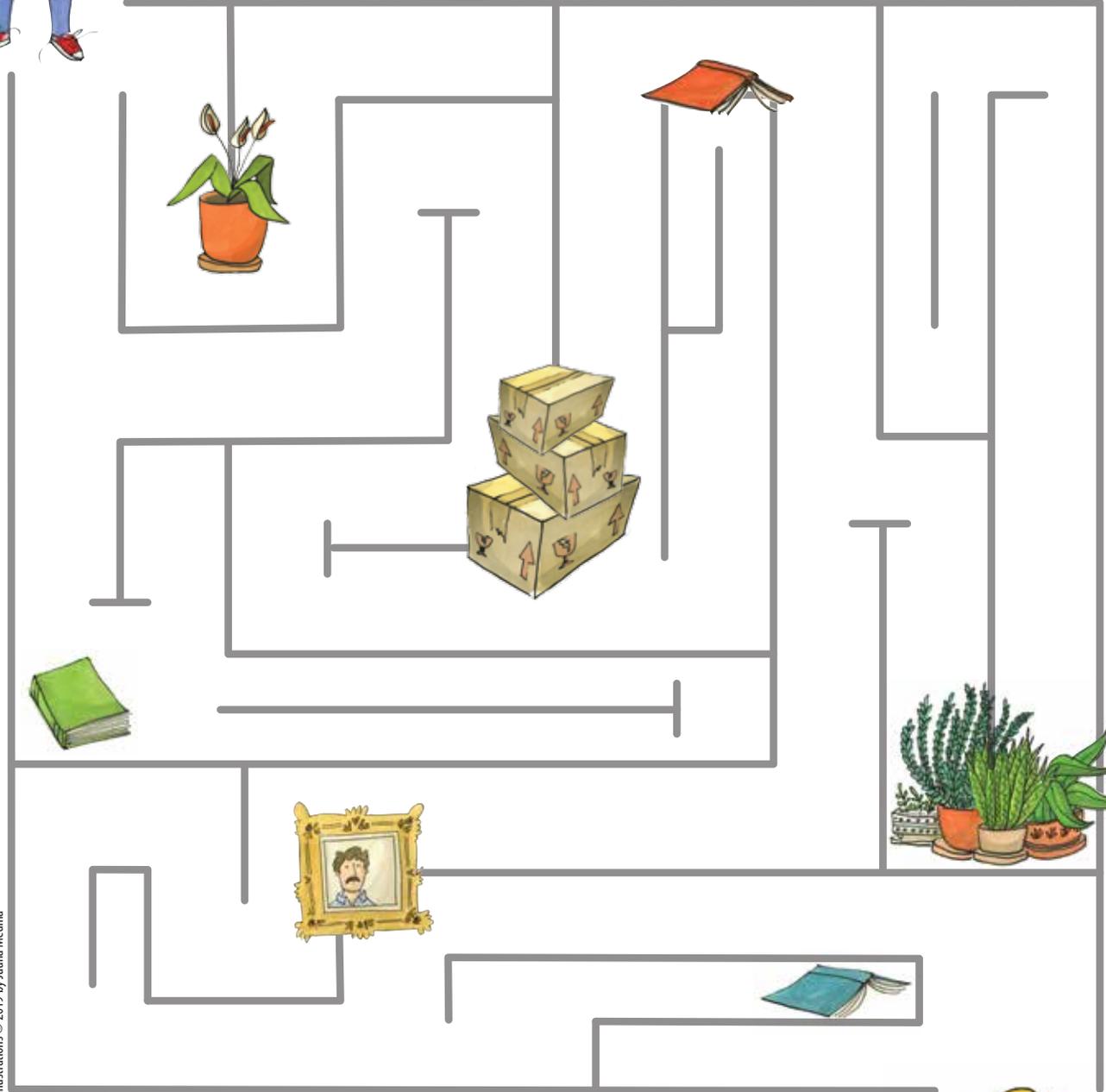
\_\_\_\_\_ is the greatest!

(Write the name of your special person or special thing.)



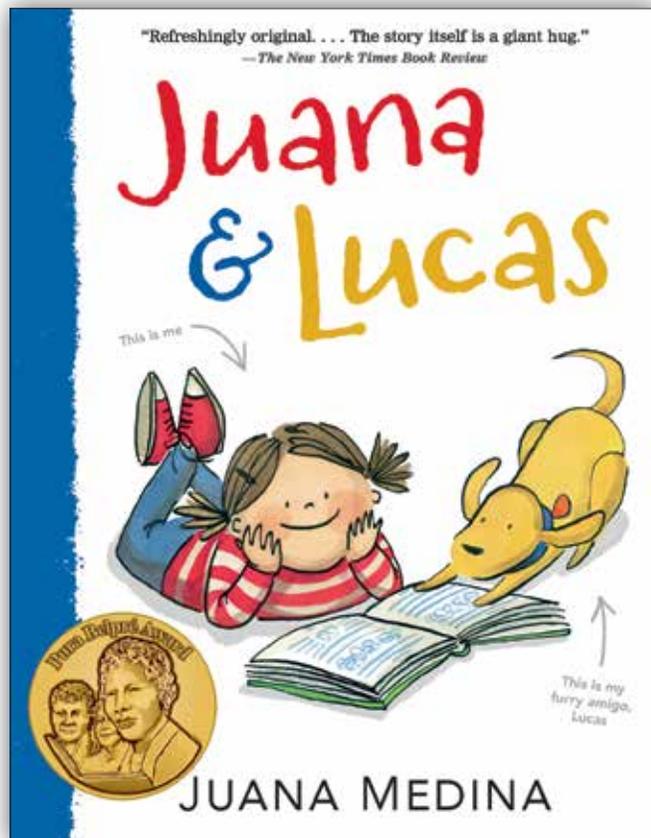
# Maze Fun

Help Juana find her way through the maze to get to Lucas.



# Don't miss the first book in the series!

## Winner of a Pura Belpré Author Award



HC: 978-0-7636-7208-9 • PB: 978-1-5362-0639-5

★ “Through this strong, adventurous, and smart female protagonist, Medina presents an extraordinary story about the many opportunities learning a new language can bring. . . Fans of Judy Moody and Lola Levine will absolutely love Juana. This upbeat new series for young readers is a must-buy.”

—*Booklist* (starred review)



★ “An essential selection that creates multicultural awareness, has distinguished and appealing design elements, and has a text that is the stuff of true literature.”

—*School Library Journal* (starred review)



★ “Both comfortably familiar (this will be an easy sell for fans of Pennypacker’s *Clementine*, for instance) and keenly specific in its setting and characters, *Juana & Lucas* is much needed for the gap it fills in American children’s literature, but it will be much beloved for its warmly depicted family relationships, eminently read-aloud-able high jinks, and sunny protagonist.”

—*The Horn Book* (starred review)



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