



## Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass

By Meg Medina

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**Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass** By Meg Medina

**NOTE:** This ISBN is recommended for Young Adult and It falls under the category Teen and Young Adult Fiction

### Winner of the 2014 Pura Belpré Author Award

In Meg Medina's compelling new novel, a Latina teen is targeted by a bully at her new school — and must discover resources she never knew she had.

One morning before school, some girl tells Piddy Sanchez that Yaqui Delgado hates her and wants to kick her ass. Piddy doesn't even know who Yaqui is, never mind what she's done to piss her off. Word is that Yaqui thinks Piddy is stuck-up, shakes her stuff when she walks, and isn't Latin enough with her white skin, good grades, and no accent. And Yaqui isn't kidding around, so Piddy better watch her back. At first Piddy is more concerned with trying to find out more about the father she's never met and how to balance honors courses with her weekend job at the neighborhood hair salon. But as the harassment escalates, avoiding Yaqui and her gang starts to take over Piddy's life. Is there any way for Piddy to survive without closing herself off or running away? In an all-too-realistic novel, Meg Medina portrays a sympathetic heroine who is forced to decide who she really is.

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## **Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass By Meg Medina Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up-Piddy Sanchez seems to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. Her best friend moves away and Piddy's Mom literally has the floor pulled out from under her as the small staircase in their apartment building collapses, forcing the family to move to another part of Queens. The move does have a bonus. For the first time, Piddy will have her own room, but it comes at a price-she has to start at a new school. Her developing body is starting to attract some unwanted attention from the Latino boys in the school as well as from Yaqui Delgado. Yaqui feels that the teenager is shaking her booty and doesn't consider her a fellow Latina. Piddy's skin is too light, she doesn't have an accent, and she does well in school. The bullying escalates and Yaqui and her crew seem to have it in for Piddy and her blossoming bottom. The teenager also faces some internal struggles as she searches for information on a father she has never known or even seen. Roxanne Hernandez, a fluent Spanish speaker, pronounces the occasional Spanish words nicely and provides a great voice and tone for each character. The Latin music at the beginning and ending of each CD (Piddy is half Cuban and half Dominican) adds a cultural element. With a title that is sure to draw attention and Medina's great story (Candlewick, 2013) to back it up, this is a definite purchase.-Katie Llera, Bound Brook High School, NJ(c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

When Piedad "Piddy" Sanchez hears that Yaqui Delgado is going to crush her, she has no idea why she has become a target of one of the roughest girls in her new Queens school. But Yaqui tells everyone Piddy is a skank who shakes her ass when she walks, and as the bullying escalates from threats to physical attacks, Piddy finds herself living in constant fear. A strong student with a bright future at her old school, Piddy starts skipping school, and her grades nosedive. After a truly upsetting attack on Piddy is uploaded to YouTube, she realizes this isn't a problem she can solve on her own. Medina authentically portrays the emotional rigors of bullying through Piddy's growing sense of claustrophobic dread, and even with no shortage of loving, supportive adults on her side, there's no easy solution. With issues of ethnic identity, class conflict, body image, and domestic violence, this could have been an overstuffed problem novel; instead, it transcends with heartfelt, truthful writing that treats the complicated roots of bullying with respect. Grades 8-11. --Krista Hutley

Review

A nuanced, heart-wrenching and ultimately empowering story about bullying....Interweaving themes of identity, escapism and body image, Medina takes what could be a didactic morality tale and spins it into something beautiful: a story rich in depth and heart...Far more than just a problem novel, this book sheds light on a serious issue without ever losing sight of its craft.

—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

Medina emphasizes Piddy's acute sense of isolation without overplaying it, and she absolutely respects the totality of Piddy's quandary...The message here is that tough and unfair stuff is really tough and unfair, but it's also survivable; that's a takeaway that readers will recognize as both true and valuable.

—Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books (starred review)

Yaqui may think she's tough, but it's Piddy and some of the other female characters, namely Piddy's mother and her mother's flamboyant best friend Lila, who make more lasting impressions. Medina's setting stands

out as well...Teens will identify with Piddy's struggle.

—The Horn Book (starred review)

The Latino cultural milieu adds a richness and texture that lifts this up above many problem novels. The plot points are dexterously intertwined, and the characters are distinct. A real bonus for those looking for a bullying book for older readers that is not simplistic.

—School Library Journal (starred review)

A powerful read! As tough and honest as its title, this novel takes an unflinching look at the unjust and cruel consequences of bullying. The story of Piddy Sanchez's transformation is full of the kind of truth teen readers will instantly recognize. I highly recommend it.

—James Howe

I cried and cheered for Piddy in equal measure. Medina perfectly captures the devastating impact of bullying—and the powerful influence of kindness in recovery. I love this book and miss Piddy already!

—Jo Knowles

Poignant, powerful, pull-your-heart-apart sad, snort-out-your-nose funny—a nuanced, honest telling of how courage and choice can triumph over the hell of being bullied.

—Carrie Jones, Author of the Need series and co-editor of Dear Bully

Books about bullying are on the rise as adults grapple with its causes and impact — and young people struggle to deal with it. This gritty novel manages to transcend the usual earnest fictional treatment by delivering a protagonist who is more than a mere victim and an ending that rings complicatedly true. ... This unflinching novel, with its richly developed main character, deserves a place with two other nuanced bully books for teens: Rita Williams-Garcia's *JUMPED*, a 2009 National Book Award finalist that explores the mindsets of bully, victim and bystander; and Adam Rex's *FAT VAMPIRE*, in which a main character confronts her guilt as a cyberbully

—The Washington Post

YAQUI DELGADO WANTS TO KICK YOUR ASS should be taught in schools, read by counselors and parents, and used as a tool to discuss the importance of finding your voice, telling the truth and asking for help.

—Common Sense Media

This is a charming, straightforward, captivating story with universal teen themes that should find a home in all high school fiction collections.

—Library Media Connection

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Salina Juarez:**

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can

spent 24 hours a day to reading a publication. The book Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass it is rather good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy often the e-book. You can more easily to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book provides high quality.

#### **Bernard Walker:**

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book mainly book entitled Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe not known for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a guide then become one type conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get before. The Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass giving you a different experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful information for your better life within this era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

#### **Jeremy Turner:**

In this era which is the greater individual or who has ability in doing something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple way to have that. What you are related is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to have a look at some books. One of several books in the top list in your reading list will be Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass. This book which is qualified as The Hungry Hillside can get you closer in turning into precious person. By looking upward and review this guide you can get many advantages.

#### **Susan Garrard:**

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