



## Diego: Bigger Than Life

*By Carmen Bernier-Grand*

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Carmen T. Bernier-Grand's inspiring free verse and David Diaz's vivid paintings capture the defining moments and emotions of Rivera's tumultuous life, including his stormy relationship with artist Frida Kahlo and his passion for his art. Rivera's energy, physique, love for women, and work were all "bigger than life." A biography, chronology, glossary, sources, notes, and famous quotations are included.

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## **Diego: Bigger Than Life** By Carmen Bernier-Grand Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

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**\*Starred Review\*** In this well-written and beautifully illustrated volume, the life of Mexican artist Diego Rivera, best known for murals depicting working people, is introduced in free verse. Similar in format to Bernier-Grand's *César: Sí, se puede!* = Yes, We Can! (2004) and *Frida: Viva la vida! Long Live Life!* (2007), the book offers a chronological sequence of poems, each appearing either on a single page accompanied by a small illustration or on a left-hand page with a full-page picture on the right. Almost all written in first person from the artist's point of view, the poems convey information succinctly within a context of colorful narrative and clearly expressed emotion. Each poem stands alone, yet some words, ideas, and images recur, creating an interconnected sequence. A three-page appended biography clarifies and amplifies the information in the verse. Also appended are a glossary, a chronology, a source bibliography, notes, and quotes from the artist. Apart from four reproductions of Rivera's paintings and one photo of the artist, the illustrations are mixed-media pictures by Diaz. Depicting Rivera and his world, these iconic images glow with warmth, light, and color. In the backgrounds, some scenes incorporate imagery from Aztec art, which Rivera collected. A lively verse portrait illuminated with incandescent illustrations. Grades 7-10. -Carolyn Phelan

### **About the Author**

Carmen T. Bernier-Grand grew up in Puerto Rico. She is the author of several children's books, including *Shake It*, *Morena* and *Juan Bobo: Four Folktales from Puerto Rico*. She lives in Portland, Oregon

David Díaz won the Caldecott Medal for his illustrations in *Smoky Night* by Eve Bunting. His artwork has appeared in a number of other distinguished titles, including *The Pot that Juan Built* and *Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman*. His work has also been featured in national publications such as *The Atlantic Monthly* and *The Washington Post*. He lives in Carlsbad, California.

## **Users Review**

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#### **Angel Sherrill:**

This *Diego: Bigger Than Life* book is just not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is definitely information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. That *Diego: Bigger Than Life* without we know teach the one who examining it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't end up being worry *Diego: Bigger Than Life* can bring any time you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even cell phone. This *Diego: Bigger Than Life* having fine arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

#### **Edith Macklin:**

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