

The Island of the Astonishing Orange Tree

Mónica Rodríguez

Original Title: La Isla del naranjo asombroso

Working Title: The Island of the Astonishing Orange Tree

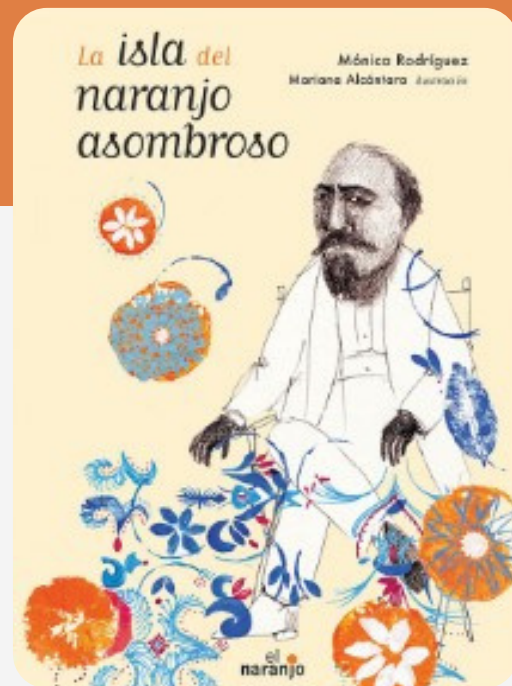
Original Language: Spanish

Publisher: El Naranjo, Mexico

Publishing date: 2019

Number of pages: 148

Recommended age: 14+



Magical Realism

**Published in Mexico but
written by a Spaniard
therefore European
funding may be available**

Award-winning author

**illustrated by Mariana
Alcántara**

About the author

Mónica Rodríguez is an outstanding Spanish author of books for small children, middle grade readers and young adults. She has a degree in Physical Sciences, with a Masters degree in Nuclear Energy. For fifteen years she worked at a research centre and in 2003 she published her first children's book. In 2009 she left her job at the research centre to devote herself entirely to Children's and Youth Literature. She has published more than forty books including stories, plays and novels. Her work has received many awards and recognitions, including White Ravens List 2013, 2016, 2018 and 2019; Fundación Cuatrogatos Prize 2018, 2019 and 2020; Gran Angular Award from the SM Foundation, 2018; and Spain's highest literary accolade for children's authors, the Cervantes Chico in 2018. Her works have been translated into Chinese, Italian and Korean.

About the translator

Claire Storey is a literary translator working from Spanish and German into English. She translates for adults and children, but has a particular interest in YA and MG. Claire was co-editor of **World Kid Lit**, highlighting the importance of books in translation for young readers. In 2021/22 Claire received Arts Council England funding for a translation project looking at YA Literature from Latin America. Claire was named Outreach Champion in 2021 by the Institute of Translation and Interpreting for her work promoting languages in schools. She would be happy to discuss school visits and marketing events.

Publishing Rights

World English language rights available.

Rights holder: Lorenza Estandía Literary Agency
Contact person: Lorenza Estandía
Email: lorenza.estandia@gmail.com
Phone: +52-55-56834074

THE ISLAND OF THE ASTONISHING ORANGE TREE

MÓNICA RODRIGUEZ // SPAIN | MEXICO

claire@cslanguages.co.uk | [@ClaireStorey16](https://www.instagram.com/ClaireStorey16) | www.clairestoreylanguages.co.uk

Overview

Unbeknown to red-haired Miranda, she is the rightful heir to an astonishing orange tree that has grown on the island where she lives for several generations. However its juicy fruits will unleash the greed of the island's inhabitants, sometimes driving them to the brink of the greatest nonsense.

This book is a delicious story with lashings of Latin American magical realism. There are elements reminiscent of *Like Water for Chocolate* by Laura Esquivel, Gabriel Garcia Marquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude* and Isabel Allende's triumphant family saga, *The House of the Spirits*. Humorous, touching and in places verging on the ridiculous, this book pays homage to the great writers of magical realism, penned by one of Spain's finest writers of the moment for young people.

Funding to help with translation costs

This book was written by Spanish author Mónica Rodríguez and published by Mexican Publishing House El Naranjo. While Mexico does not currently offer translation funding, due to Mónica's Spanish nationality, there should be funding available from the Spanish literary bodies to help cover the translation costs involved.

To be aware of

There is a sex scene where the author narrates how the orange tree came to be planted: "a pip fell from a bag carried by Dulce Nombre de María while she was making love to young Ataulfo". The earth beneath them was disturbed by their shenanigans and created the perfect conditions for planting seeds, in more ways than one! Dulce Nombre de María falls pregnant from this escapade and so begins the family saga.

THE ISLAND OF THE ASTONISHING ORANGE TREE
MÓNICA RODRIGUEZ // SPAIN | MEXICO

claire@cslanguages.co.uk | @ClaireStorey16 | www.clairestoreylanguages.co.uk