



Young Adult Literature from Latin America

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Never Tell Anyone Your Name

Federico Ivanier

Original Title: Nunca digas tu nombre

Working Title: Never Tell Anyone Your Name

Original Language: Spanish / Uruguay

Publisher: Criatura Editora (Uruguay)
Edelvives (Mexico)

Publishing date: 2020

Number of pages: 96

Age: 14+



Bartolomé Hidalgo Prize 2020

**Awarded by the
Uruguay Book Chamber**

**National Literary Prize
Second Place, 2020**

**Awarded by the Uruguayan
Ministry for Culture and Education**

**Fundación Cuatrogatos Prize
Finalist, 2022**

**A pan-Americas organisation
based in Miami, USA**

An award-winning novel about a boy who finds himself in an unfamiliar city with eight hours to kill, with an unusual second-person narrative and an unexpected fantasy twist.

About the author

Federico Ivanier is an acclaimed Uruguayan writer for young people. He has written over twenty books that have been published across Latin America. His works have been awarded the National Prize for Literature from the Uruguayan Ministry for Education and Culture as well as the Premio Bartolomé Hidalgo, one of the country's most important literary awards. His middle grade trilogy **Martina Valiente** is viewed as a modern classic within Uruguay (details available).

As far as we are aware, **no YA books from Uruguay have ever been translated into English.** As well as writing books, Federico works as an high-school English language teacher and would be happy to discuss options for marketing events.

Publishing Rights

World English language rights available.

Rights holder: Federico Ivanier (the author)
Email: fedeivanier@hotmail.com

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Overview

Never Tell Anyone your Name is inspired by Ivanier's own experience of booking the wrong ticket on a train journey between Bordeaux, France and Madrid, Spain, and finding himself in the Spanish border town of Irún with several hours to kill. Written in the unusual second-person present tense, our unnamed Uruguayan protagonist finds himself in the Spanish border town of Irún with nowhere to go. Befriended by a Spanish girl, we start to fear that he has been lured into a trap. However, an unseen twist in the plot means our protagonist is able to turn the tables to his advantage.

This would be the first Young Adult book by a Uruguayan author to be translated.

Why This Book?

I loved this book because the ingenious narrative includes many hints to the protagonist's real identity; however, these are invisible until the twist is revealed. I was expecting something to happen, but when it actually did, it wasn't anything I could have predicted. But at the moment of revelation, when you look back, it all becomes glaringly obvious.

Themes

Identity

Never Tell Anyone Your Name has a recurring theme of identity: who are we really? Do we all wear a mask that conceals our true identity? While our unnamed protagonist takes this to the extreme, it is a question that will resonate with young people navigating the world where people often only reveal what they want others to see.

Travel and language

While the book is written by a Uruguayan author it is set in a more familiar European environment. The protagonist is Uruguayan and there are several references to travel, to being alone in unfamiliar territory and the linguistic differences of speaking the same language but in different places.

Plot Spoiler:

The protagonist is actually a vampire

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Music, Film and Literature

Music is present throughout the novel, particularly mentioned are songs by the Argentinian group Catupecu Machu, but other songs by US/UK bands are also mentioned. There are also other references to film (*Almost Famous*) and literature (*Dracula*, *The Prince and the Pauper*). In chapter 7, Lucrecia recites a poem by living Uruguayan poet Circe Maia.

**For more details, full synopsis and translated extract,
please contact claire@cslanguages.co.uk**

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