

Samantha R. Vamos Biography

Samantha is the author of *Before You Were Here, Mi Amor* (Viking Children's Books, 2009, illustrated by Santiago Cohen), *The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred* (Charlesbridge, 2011, illustrated by Rafael López), and the forthcoming *Alphabet Trucks* (Charlesbridge, Fall 2013).



Before You Were Here, Mi Amor is a bilingual children's picture book about all the things one family does to welcome a new child into the world. *Parents Magazine* (May 2009) selected *Before You Were Here, Mi Amor* as one of six books designated "Best for Babies." In 2010, *Before You Were Here, Mi Amor* was awarded the Washington State Book Award for Picture Book – The Scandiuzzi Children's Book Award.

The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred is a spicy tribute to the classic nursery rhyme "The House That Jack Built." In this bilingual celebration and cumulative tale, a farmer and five farm animals each bring different ingredients to the *cazuela* (pot) that the farm maiden stirs. Together they create a surprise recipe that they serve at a *fiesta*. A glossary with pronunciation and a recipe are included. Illustrator Rafael López is the 2010 winner of the ALA's Pura Belpré Illustrator Award. *The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred* has received starred reviews from Kirkus Reviews and School Library Journal.

Alphabet Trucks is a rhyming, alphabet story about twenty-six different trucks and how they serve their communities.

Samantha attended Georgetown University Law Center and practiced law in Washington, D.C. and Chicago, Illinois. She and her family live near Seattle, Washington. Please visit Samantha online at <http://www.samanthavamos.com>.