



Keepers of Wisdom and Peace Books

P.O. Box 1314

Woodstock, NY 12498 USA

845.679.9258

www.keepersofwisdomandpeace.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Woodstock, NY
August 25, 2010

New Book Introduces Children of all Ages to the People of the Andes Mountains of Peru, their Ancient Traditions, and their Way of Life.

KUSIKIY A CHILD FROM TAQUILE, PERU, by author and illustrator Mercedes Cecilia, is a unique story that draws us into the kaleidoscopic and mysterious world of a Peruvian child. Kusikiy lives in the Andes Mountains of Peru in a small island in Lake Titikaka. In this wise and peaceful community, Kusikiy's father cultivates potatoes and quinoa. His mother, like her mother and grandmother, weaves intricate traditional designs into her textiles to keep a record of important events. Children will identify with Kusikiy's love for family and his concerns for the effects of climate changes on Mother Earth, as well as with his desire to be of help to his town.

When the Llama Constellation is missing from the sky, Kusikiy flies with Condor to the highest snowed peak to ask the APU, the Guardian Spirit of the Mountain for his help. Kusikiy enjoys his adventures and learns from his great grandparents the sacredness of the Great Glaciers and the traditional ways of giving thanks to Mother Earth. The town rejoices with a festival when they see the stars of the Llama Constellation returning to the sky.

Author/illustrator, Mercedes Cecilia has created a myth following in the tradition of her Peruvian ancestors; a myth that treasures the universal values of love, family, community and caring for the Earth.

KUSIKIY A CHILD FROM TAQUILE, PERU, is a book that gives parents and educators a visual and appealing way to engage children in a dialogue about traditional cultures, the meaning of community, sustainability and caring for our environment. It's a story of a loving and adventurous child that offers children of all ages a multitude of opportunities to gain knowledge, to be entertained and be reminded that our world is formed by people that have different ways of life. This is a special story that allows children to identify with a child from a foreign land, enhancing their understanding and empathy, which will extend to the significant groups in their community and the wider world.

Mercedes Cecilia, author and illustrator, is a practitioner of Naturopathic methods of healing and Jin Shin Jyutsu and an award winning artist. Mercedes founded "Art for All School," a traveling school that pioneered art in education programs celebrating multicultural diversity in the heritage of New York State's and Pennsylvania rural communities. *Kusikiy, a child from Taquile, Peru*, is Mercedes' fifth children's book. Mercedes Cecilia is an American citizen, born in Peru, who has made Woodstock her home since 1986.

KUSIKIY A CHILD FROM TAQUILE, PERU

A children's picture book by author and illustrator Mercedes Cecilia

Hard cover book with full color dust jacket

48 pages with 24 full-page illustrations

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 2010901343

ISBN 9780984407903. First Edition in English. Printed in USA

Published in the United States by:

Keepers of Wisdom and Peace Books

P.O. Box 1314, Woodstock, NY 12498

845-679-9258

keepersofwisdomandpeace.com

kusikiyachildfromtaquileperu.com