

Discussion points, activities, and writing prompts to help educators use  
***The One Day House***

## About the Book

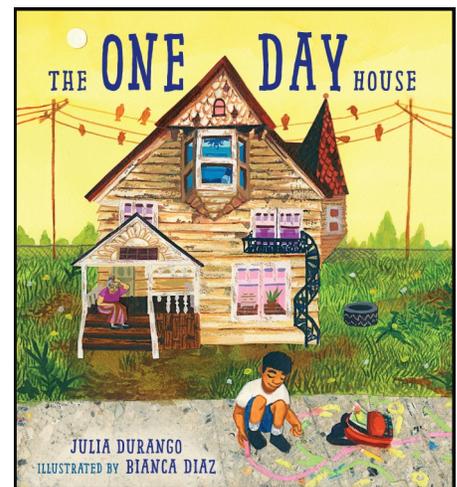
**“A labor of love honoring labors of love.”**—*Kirkus Reviews*

**“... a wonderful launching pad to start children on a trajectory of altruism.”**—*BookPage*

**“An inspirational choice to read aloud or one-on-one.”**—*School Library Journal*

One day Wilson hopes to help Gigi fix up her old home. But how will one small boy repair a roof, build a fence, and paint the house by himself?

When neighbors and friends come together to help Wilson help Gigi, it's *one day* they will never forget.



978-1-58089-709-9  
E-book editions available

Aligned to the Common Core & Literacy Standards Grades K-1



### About the Author

Julia Durango is the author of *Under the Mambo Moon* (Charlesbridge) and the bilingual picture book *Peter Claver: Patron Saint of Slaves* (Simon & Schuster). She lives with her family in Ottawa, Illinois.

Visit Julia online at <http://juliadurangobooks.blogspot.com/>.



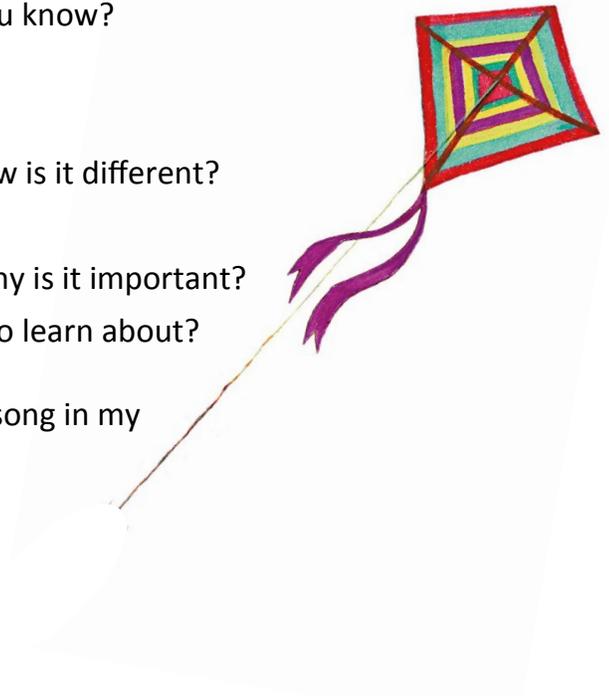
### About the Illustrator

Bianca Diaz is a children's book illustrator, artist, and educator. Using art and education as her tools, she strives to be instrumental in the collaborative creation of these communities. She lives in New York City.

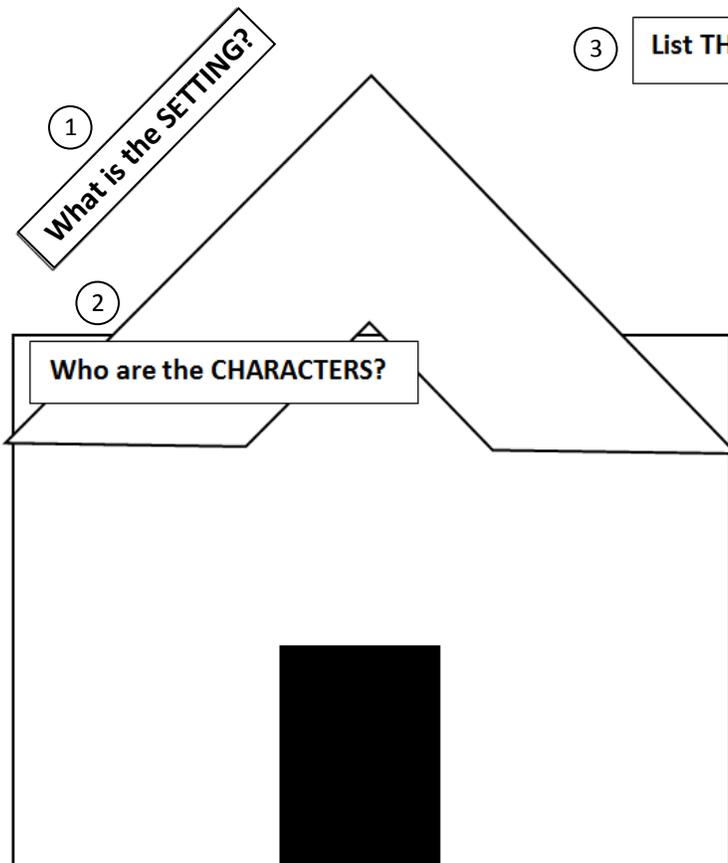
Visit Bianca online at <https://bianca-diaz-crfp.squarespace.com/>.

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- 1) What do you think the relationship is between Wilson and Gigi? What makes you think so?
- 2) What needs to be done to Gigi's windows? How do you know?
- 3) How does Gigi answer all of Wilson's wishes?
- 4) Why does Wilson want Gigi to have a fence?
- 5) Describe Gigi's neighborhood. How is it like yours? How is it different?
- 6) What's the prettiest view in your neighborhood?
- 7) What plan does Wilson make to fix Gigi's chimney? Why is it important?
- 8) Why does Wilson go to the library? What is he trying to learn about?  
Do you read non-fiction books, too?
- 9) Explain what Gigi means when she says, "You are the song in my heart."
- 10) What do you like to watch grow?
- 11) Describe what happens on the special "one day."
- 12) How can you make a difference like Wilson did?



## Project: SUMMARIZE THE STORY



3 List THREE things that happened in the story:

1.

2.

3.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) Why is it important to help neighbors who need us?
- 2) How can kids help in their community?
- 3) Which repairs do you think should be done first? Why?
- 4) If you wanted to get a big project started, who would you turn to for help? Why?
- 5) How would you describe or characterize Gigi?

## Activity: BE A READING DETECTIVE!

Many times authors tell readers exactly what is happening in a story. But sometimes a reader must put together clues. This is called an *inference*. Practice making inferences using the clues from the story:

Clues from the story:	What you can INFER or FIGURE OUT about Gigi or her house:
EX: "I will fix Gigi's windows so she can open them wide and feel the breeze."	EX: Gigi's windows must be broken so they don't open anymore.
"I will build a fence around the yard so you can have a dog to keep you company."	Gigi must...
"I will fix the chimney so you can make a fire to keep you cozy."	Gigi's house must be...
"I will fix the roof on Gigi's house to keep out the wind and snow."	On rainy or snowy days inside Gigi's house it must....
"I will fix your piano so you can play music again."	Gigi must already know....
"One day is here!"	By looking at the illustrations you know...

## Activity: SING A LONG!

Sing a song (just for fun) inspired by the book! Singing is a great opportunity to improve fluency, so be sure to provide children with a copy of the lyrics. You may want to put them in small groups to learn a single verse and then sing it in rounds.

**Sing this song to the tune *Frère Jacques*.**

One Day House, One Day House  
Wilson dreams, Wilson dreams  
Paint it like the sun  
All the neighbors come  
Fresh and bright  
Make things right

One Day House, One Day House  
Wilson dreams, Wilson dreams  
Open windows wide  
Let the breeze inside  
Cool and light  
Make things right

One Day House, One Day House  
Wilson dreams, Wilson dreams  
Fence and balcony  
A dog for company  
Pretty sight  
Make things right



One Day House, One Day House  
Wilson dreams, Wilson dreams  
Fix chimney and the roof  
Warm and cozy proof  
Love burns bright  
Make things right

One Day House, One Day House  
Wilson dreams, Wilson dreams  
With music and some flowers  
We'll while away the hours  
Friends unite  
Make things right

One Day House, One Day House  
Wilson dreams, Wilson dreams  
Now "one day" is here  
Everyone appears  
All is right  
Day and night!

