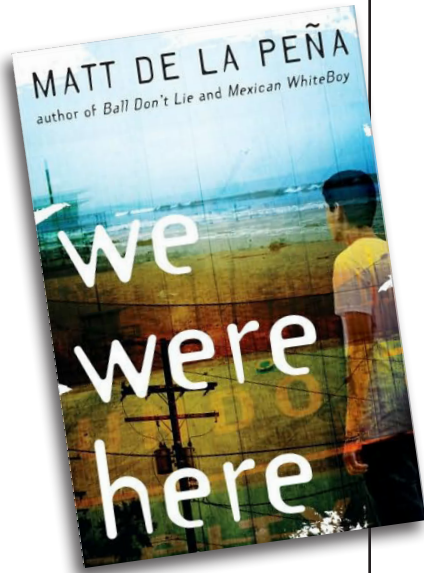


ATPE BOOK of the month CLUB



We Were Here by Matt de la Peña

(Grades 9–12)

(Summary taken from book jacket)

When it happened, Miguel was sent to Juvi. The judge only gave him a year in a group home—said he had to write in a journal so some counselor could try to figure out how he thinks. The judge had no idea that he'd actually done Miguel a favor. Ever since it happened Miguel's mom can't even look him in the eye. Any home besides his would be a better place to live.

But Miguel didn't bet on meeting Rondell or Mong or on any of what happened after they broke out. He only thought about Mexico and getting across the border to where he could start over. Forget his mom. Forget his brother. Forget himself.

Life usually doesn't work out how you think it will, though. And most of the time, running away is the quickest path right back to what you're running from.

From the streets of Stockton to the beaches of Venice, all the way down to the Mexican border, *We Were Here* follows a journey of self-discovery by a boy who is trying to forgive himself in an unforgiving world.

Go to www.atpe.org/Resources/Educators/bookClub.asp to download discussion questions and posters for the books ATPE has featured in the Book of the Month Club!