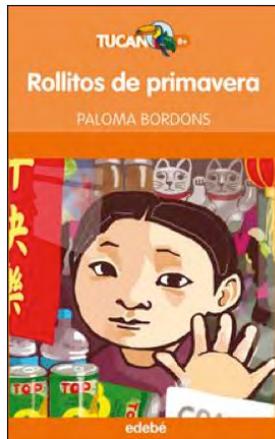
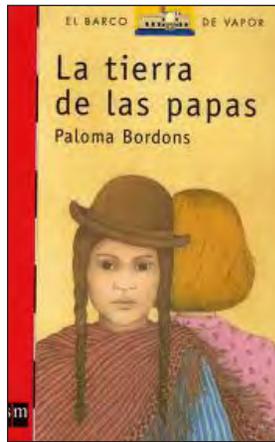


## PALOMA BORDONS

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Paloma Bordons (Madrid, 1964) has published more than thirty books in her country and she has been awarded the two most important Spanish prizes for children's literature, Barco de Vapor and Edebé. *La tierra de las papas* was published for the first time by Ediciones SM in Madrid in 1996. It has sold more than 90 000 copies so far and it is regularly reprinted. It is a novel for youngsters that describes the experience of a thirteen year old Spanish girl in Bolivia, has been translated into English by Wendy Tyndale, an English teacher who has lived for many years in Latin America and has a deep knowledge of both Spanish language and the peculiarities of Latin American society.



### The land of potatoes (*La tierra de las papas*) SM, 2005

Maria's life changes completely when she moves with her father from Spain to Bolivia. Her father, an enthusiastic and idealistic engineer, takes part in a development project designed to provide the Bolivian Altiplano with solar energy. Maria is especially shocked by the overwhelming presence of a poor and oppressed indigenous community and a culture that differs in every aspect to her own. Her father is completely absorbed by work and doesn't seem to pay much attention to Maria's adaptation problems and loneliness. Casilda, an Aymara girl employed by Maria's father to take care of their home, will eventually strike up a peculiar friendship with Maria and put an end to her solitude. Potatoes, the main food of the indians of the Altiplano, will be the means to establish the communication between these two girls who apparently have nothing in common. María's initial feeling of superiority over the "ignorant" Casilda will turn into respect for a girl of her age that already faces the concerns of an adult. In this story, contradictions are shown but not solved. To enhance the sense of relativity, the story is told alternatively by Maria and Casilda, who see the same things from a different perspective. The refreshing speech of both girls lightens the sometimes not so light story, making it highly readable and often humorous.

### Spring rolls (*Rollitos de primavera*) Edebé, 2014

The building where Julio lives has a communal garden, where he plays with his friends, the children from the other flats. There's also the Chinese girl, but she is not one of them. She's the daughter of the owner of the corner shop. Mazo's dad says she doesn't have the right to enter their private garden. So Julio and his friends chase her out each time she tries to go down the slide or use the swing. She keeps coming anyway and, of course, that leads to trouble. And Julio will soon realise he's not sure who's side he's on.

### Leporine Clandestine (*Leporino Clandestino*) SM, first edition 1999, last edition 2011

Galileo is an uncommon child with an uncommon name. Son of two scientists, his parents chose to name him after their hero Galileo Galilei. Such a name is quite a burden for a 9 year old, but Galileo carries it with pride, because he wants to become a famous scientist himself.

Galileo is a bit of a nerd and a bit a loner, but he doesn't care that much, or at least that's what he tells himself.

One day he meets Candela in the playground. Candela is one year older than him, she's an extrovert, she's popular, she loves animals and, what's more important, she seems to like Galileo. The boy is ready to do whatever it takes to keep this new friend. Even if that involves stealing a mouse for her from his parent's lab. The two children will keep the pet, Leporino, hidden in a hut in the school premises. At the beginning Leporino will be their secret. Eventually, it will become a "secret" shared by all his classmates. The communal raising of Leporino will improve Galileo's status in the group, but it will also be a source of big trouble.