

Global Publishing Group

MEDIA RELEASE

Based on a true incident with award-winning author Jill Campbell-Mason.

Mario's struggles matter. They resonate with us, helping us learn, we, too, matter.



Mario is an underfed, underprivileged, underdog shoe-shine boy. He stands on a timeline that connects his Incan heritage with a nearly impossible future. He charts his own path as he pleads to become the godson of an American family setting the scene for both deep personal and cultural changes in spite of the degrading poverty in which he's mired.



But Mario matters. The space he occupies, his values, his innate genius and foibles—they matter. His story, from the foot of Machu Picchu, is hooked arm-in-arm with Sonrisa's story from an upper middle class suburb. As he walks his mountains, he faces his griefs head on. The death of his father parallels Sonrisa's mother's death, a loss she cannot comprehend. The simplicity of cultural integrity is reinvented as Mario grows from a burdened child into a rock-solid embodiment of everything any of us could hope to be, reminding us of the bounty of gifts embedded in humanity.

