



# Read Aloud Guide

**Title:** *They Call Me Mix/Me llaman Maestre* by Lourdes Rivas, Illustrated by Breena Nuñez

**Best for:** K-2nd grade

**Summary:** *They Call Me Mix* is a bilingual (English and Spanish) Children's book geared towards Kinder-2nd grade age students about what it means to be a transgender person of color. In this book, Lourdes shares their journey of being non-binary and what it all means. Join them as they learn to change and play with words to make them fit just right. Not "she". Not "he". They! Not Ms. Not Mr. Mx!

**Why we chose this book:** We love how Rivas explains the gender binary in clear, kid-friendly language, and how hard it can be for people who identify as neither just a girl or a boy. They encourage kids to be true to their hearts and selves, and how to support other kids (and adults).

**Notes:** Check out the Note to the Reader at the end of the book to learn more about the author, pronouns, and asking people about their gender

**Central themes:** Gender identity, understanding differences

**Introducing the book:** You can begin by showing the cover, reading the title and author, and then saying something like this:  
*"This book is by someone who doesn't feel like they are just a girl or just a boy. Do you know anyone who feels that way?" Have you ever had a hard time deciding between two things? What did you do?"*

**During Reading:** Stop to ask questions - children can respond to the whole group or talk to a partner  
p.4-5 "*The author says 'Some days I am both. Some days I am neither. Most days, I am everything in between.' What do you think that means?*"  
p. 12-13 "*If you feel like a girl and you play with a toy from the blue side of the page, does that make you a boy? What about if you feel like a boy and you play with something from the pink side of the page - does that make you a girl?*"  
p. 22 "*How do you think Lourdes feels when people keep using the pronoun she? Or when they use hurtful words towards them? If you heard someone saying hurtful words towards your friend, what could you do to help?*"

**After Reading:** Debrief with students

Pronouns are words we use to describe people without using their names. If you were talking about me, you'd say "that's \_\_\_\_\_.  
Lourdes uses the pronouns they/them/theirs. Other pronouns are she/her/hers and he/him/his. Would anyone like to share the pronouns they'd like other people to use for them?"