



**Del Rio, Adam.**

**Vines of the Earth/Parras de la tierra.**

**illus. by David Arroyo. U.S.: Lectura. 2007.**

**ISBN 978-0-9772852-7-3. \$15.95.**

**Gr 4-6**—This immigrant story of hardship, struggle, and success will inspire readers to work hard for their dreams. Mario used to go to bed hungry in his native Mexican pueblo. As a young man picking grapes in Napa, CA, he is fascinated by the fruit of his toil. When one day the landowner invites him to taste the wine they produce, Mario is hooked. He sets his heart on someday buying a vineyard and turning his own grapes into wine. For many years, he scrimps pennies and sacrifices pleasures to buy small plots of land at a time. He sets an example for his children and they, too, work in his fields. It takes 40 years to build The Reynoso Napa Vineyard, but it is a legacy worth every bead of sweat! Vibrant earth tones of sweeping landscapes capture the beauty behind Mario's perseverance. A picture English/Spanish is included at the end. Highly recommended for all schools and public libraries.—*Gisela Norat, Associate Professor of Spanish, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA*