Oral Histories from Guatemala
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Guatemala:
- Comprised of 23 Mayan tribes
- Strong history of collective culture and action
- De-colonized in 1829 from Spain but the rich elite still maintain control
- History of political and economic corruption that has contributed to massive poverty

Nuevo San Jose, Fatima and La Escuela de la Montana:
- Communities of farm workers who stayed together as collectives after displacement
- Different stories, but similar histories of collective struggle to survive, live together and gain a better life for their families and children
- Spanish Language School that works with these communities to provide scholarships for area children and sources of income with Collective of Women.

Project
- Developing a children's story for the community to remember and share with their children
  - The Struggle . . . The Fight
    - Organizing on the plantation
    - Standing up for rights to live, earn a fair wage and survive
    - Standing together and unionizing
    - Working with local pastors, bearing witness to struggle.
    - Becoming displaced as result of crisis.
  - The Other Struggle . . . The Other Fight
    - Together but without a home
    - Obtaining land
    - Getting water, housing, electricity
    - Surviving new struggles . . . together
  - Collaboration
    - Working with the Catholic Church, La Escuela de la Montana and other organizations to gain stability
    - Educational opportunities for children - scholarships, education and a community library
  - The Struggle Continues
    - Lack of work
    - Having a home but without sources of income
    - Young adults with education but no available work near home
    - Prevalence of gang activity
    - Looking for work elsewhere . . . Xela, Guatemala City, U.S.A.

Outcomes
- Children's book for community that reflects the history, collaboratively written and illustrated
  - Written based on recorded oral histories
  - Providing a relic of a memory for community, by the community, of the community.
  - Potential to provide more scholarships for kids to study
  - Creating work for local artist
  - Collaborating with a local artist

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Meet Ceiba and her community