

Text: **FRAN ALONSO**

Photography: **MANUEL G. VICENTE**

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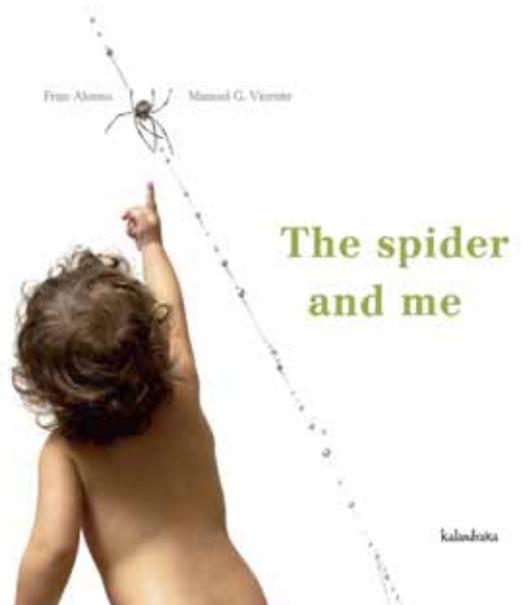
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THE SPIDER AND ME



**One bright day, all of a sudden,
a fat, ugly spider...
jumped out of the sky and landed on my body.
First of all, the cheeky thing explored my big toe, as plump as a kiwi.
Then, it climbed up to my ankles, as bumpy as the skin of tangerine.**

"A Spider and Me" is a picture book of great visual and literary beauty. Ideal for all ages, from beginning reader to adult, it compares each part of a young girl's body with a different fruit, and uses these comparisons to explore differences in form, size and texture. And the reader can't help but imagine what the little girl must be feeling as the ugly spider travels across her body. The negative appeal of the spider adds a level of subtle contrast and even a touch of humour to the text. A visual and poetic approach to the human body.

FRAN ALONSO (Vigo, 1963)

is a writer, editor and journalist in the Galician press. He is the author of, among other works, "Cemetery of Elephants"(1994), "Silence" (1995), "The Brightness of Elephants" (1999), and "Subversions" (2001). "Headaches" was published in Spanish in 2001 by FAKTORIA K. He is winner of such literary prizes as The "Blanco Amor" Novel Prize, the "Rañolas Prize" for Children's Literature and the "Losada Diéguez" for Literary Creation. His works have also received the White Ravens distinction from International Youth Library in Munich.

- **Themes:** the body, fruit, figurative language
- **Recommended age:** 5 and up
- **Highlights:** photographic beauty; poetic tale accessible for all ages; visual and literary metaphors; vocabulary of fruit, movement and insects

MANUEL G. VICENTE (Vigo, 1958)

since the beginning of the 1980's Manuel Vicente has garnered attention in numerous exhibits, catalogues, monographs and publications. He regularly collaborates with Fran Alonso. He specializes in The Way of St. James, and in addition to documenting the French Route he has completed projects on the Vía de la Plata, the Portuguese Route and the paths to Fisterra and Muxia.

