

## TEEN FICTION

### **Acevedo, Elizabeth. *The Poet X.***

Award winning slam poet Acevedo's novel in verse illustrates the struggles and courage of Xiomara Batista, an Afro-Latin heroine who pours all her frustrations and passion into her poetry. Encouraged by her teacher, she enters a poetry slam, "the most freeing experience of her life."

### **Longoria, Margarita (ed.). *Living Beyond Borders.***

An anthology of short stories, essays, poetry, and comics about the Mexican American experience.

### **Older, Daniel Jose. *Shadowshaper.***

Sierra Santiago realizes that something strange is going on when she discovers her Puerto Rican family are shadowshapers and finds herself in a battle with an evil anthropologist for the lives of her family and friends.

### **Sánchez, Erika. *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter.***

When the sister who delighted their parents by her faithful embrace of Mexican culture dies in a tragic accident, Julia discovers from mutual friends that her sister may not have been as perfect as believed.

## CHILDREN'S FICTION

### **Middle Grade**

### **Behar, Ruth. *Letters From Cuba.***

In 1938, eleven-year-old Esther joins her father in tropical, multicultural Cuba, where they toil together to rescue the rest of their Jewish family from persecution in Poland.

### **Cisneros, Ernesto. *Efren Divided.***

While his father works two jobs, Efren must take care of his twin siblings after their mother is deported to Mexico.

### **Hernandez, Carlos. *Sal and Gabi Break the Universe.***

Best friends try to repair damage they caused when they tried to help their families.

### **Medina, Meg. *Merci Suarez Changes Gears.***

Sixth grader Merci faces challenges at school and at home as her family will not tell her why her grandfather is forgetting things.

### **Picture Books**

### **Brown, Monica. *Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match.***

Marisol McDonald, a biracial, nonconformist, soccer-playing pirate-princess with brown skin and red hair, celebrates her uniqueness.

### **De Regil, Tania. *A New Home.***

A boy from New York City and a girl from Mexico City express fears about moving to each other's home city. A heartwarming tale about finding home anywhere.

### **Medina, Meg. *Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away.***

A beautiful story about keeping your best friend when you are moving away.

### **Morales, Yuyi. *Dreamers.***

Award winning author Morales tells her own immigration story.

### **Raúl the Third. *¡Vamos! Let's Go to the Market!***

Little Lobo, a Mexican American boy, and Bernabe, his dog, deliver supplies to vendors at the Mercado, a busy border town market.

### **Sotomayor, Sonia. *Just Ask! Be Different, Be Brave, Be You.***

A group of children with different abilities and strengths come together to build a community garden.

### **Winter, Jeannette. *Biblioburro.***

Based on a true story of bringing books by donkey to kids in faraway areas of Colombia.

## Hispanic Heritage Month Recommended Books



Belmont Public Library  
366 Concord Avenue  
Belmont, MA 02478  
617-489-2000  
belmontpubliclibrary.net

## ADULT FICTION

**Allende, Isabel.** *House of the Spirits.*

A look at Latin American history through the tale of one family during the early 20th century through 1973.

**Alvarez, Julia.** *In the Time of the Butterflies.*

This novel depicts the courage and love of four sisters called the Butterflies. Three of the four were martyred for their criticism of the dictator of the Dominican Republic in 1960. Based on a true story.

**Cisneros, Sandra.** *Martita, I Remember You.*

An enchanting story about a writer remembering her short time in Paris.

**Cordova, Zoraida.** *The Inheritance of Orquidea Divina.*

A gorgeously written science fiction novel about a family searching for the truth hidden in their past and the power they've inherited.

**Coster, Naima.** *What's Mine and Yours.*

The story of two families over a lifetime, one black, and one half Latina, and the choices they make that have affected their lives.

**Moreno-Garcia, Silvia.** *Mexican Gothic.*

A gothic novel from the 1950's.

**Moreno-Garcia, Silvia.** *Velvet Was the Night.*

A riveting noir about a daydreaming secretary, a lonesome thug, and the mystery of the missing woman that brings them together.

## NON-FICTION

**Capetillo, Luisa.** *A Nation of Women.*

An early 20th century activist makes significant contributions both in her native Puerto Rico and the United States. Originally published in 1911.

**Cobo, Leila.** *Decoding Despacito: An Oral History of Latin Music.*

A behind-the-scenes look at some of the biggest Latin hits of the past fifty years with the stories behind the songs told in detail by the artists who created them.

**Gonzalez, John.** *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America.*

Gonzalez, a Puerto Rican journalist, brings passion and research to this fascinating history of Latinos in America.

**Lopez, William D.** *Separated: Family and Community in the Aftermath of an Immigration Raid.*

An ICE raid in one Latino community in Michigan, the author details the incredible strain that it placed on the community, the families, and the individuals left behind.

**Martínez, Óscar.** *The Beast: Riding the Rails and Dodging Narcos on the Migrant Trail.*

Illustrates the abduction of many migrants that try to come to the U.S.

**Mojica Rodriguez, Prisca Dorcas.** *For Brown Girls with Sharp Edges and Tender Hearts.*

Offers wisdom and a liberating path forward for all fellow Brown girls.

## MEMOIRS

**Gurba, Myriam.** *Mean.*

Myriam Gurba's debut is the hilarious tale of her coming of age as a queer, mixed-race Chicana.

**Lovato, Roberto.** *Unforgetting: A Memoir of Family, Migration, Gangs and Revolution in the Americas.*

A journalistic memoir detailing the author's firsthand experiences with immigration, gang life, and guerrilla warfare.

**Machado, Carmen Maria.** *In the Dream House.*

Machado struggles to make sense of how what happened to her shaped her queer identity.

**Padilla Peralta, Dan-el.** *Undocumented.*

From the streets of East Harlem, Dan-el makes his way to Princeton, thrives, and decides to come out as undocumented.

## POETRY

**De Burgos, Julia.** *Song of the Simple Truth.*

The first bilingual edition of Julia de Burgos' complete poems.

**Salgado, Yesika.** *Corazón.*

Poems about the constant hunger for love.

## PODCASTS

**Alt-Latino (NPR):** Latin Alternative music and rock in Spanish, hosted by Felix Contreras. <https://www.npr.org/sections/altlatino/>

**Anything for Selena (on WBUR and FuturoMedia):** In this intimate journey, host Maria Garcia explores what Selena's legacy shows us about belonging in America.

**In the Thick (FuturoMedia):** Politics, race, and culture from a POC perspective. Hosted by Maria Hinojosa and Julio Ricardo Varela.

**La Brega (FuturoMedia and WNYC studios):** Stories of the Puerto Rican experience.

**LatinoUSA (PRX):** Hosted by Maria Hinojosa. <https://www.latinousa.org>

**Radio Ambulante (NPR):** A narrative podcast hosted by Daniel Alarcon that tells uniquely Latin American stories in Spanish, plus programs for learners.