

MEMOIRS AND POETRY

Diaz, Natalie. *Postcolonial Love Poem*.

"Postcolonial Love Poem is an anthem of desire against erasure. Natalie Diaz's brilliant second collection demands that every body carried in its pages - bodies of language, land, rivers, suffering brothers, enemies, and lovers - be touched and held as beloved." - ASU

Longoria, Margarita. *Living Beyond Borders*.

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

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

A journalistic memoir detailing the author's first hand experiences with immigration, gang life, and guerrilla warfare. The child of Salvadoran immigrants, Lovato grew up in 1970's and 80's San Francisco and saw many friends die from gang violence. Later he was involved in the guerrilla movement in El Salvador. He channeled his own pain into journalism and activism.

Paredes, Deborah. *Year of the Dog*.

A Latina feminist chronicle of the Vietnam War era in documentary poems that highlights the voices of women relegated to the margins of history.

Wong, Carmen Rita. *Why Didn't You Tell Me?*

Carmen Rita Wong—media entrepreneur, former national television host, author, and advice columnist, shares her riveting and poignant experience of race and culture in America.

Zamora, Javier. *Solito*.

At 9 years old, Javier travels makes a three-thousand-mile journey from his small town in El Salvador, through Guatemala and Mexico, and across the U.S. border.

NON-FICTION

Capetillo, Luisa. *A Nation of Women*.

This book gives Capetillo's feminism and activism the spotlight it deserves—not just a nod to her being the first woman to wear men's pants publicly in 1915. The work embraces the humanistic thinking of the early 20th century and envisions a world in which women and workers are free.

Fennell, Saraciea. *Wild Tongues Can't Be Tamed*.

Fifteen original essays that celebrate the diversity of the Latinx community.

Fernandez-Armesto, Felipe. *Our Americas: a Hispanic History of the United States*.

A history of Hispanics in America from the explorers and the Conquistadors who colonized Puerto Rico and Florida, to the missionaries and rancheros who settled in California, and the 20th century resurgence in Chicago and Miami.

Hernandez Castillo, Marcelo. *Children of the Land*.

An International Latino Book Award Finalist, this book recounts the joys and sorrows of a family torn apart by policies and the heartbreak of trying to live an ordinary life under the scrutiny of ICE.

Hinojosa, Maria. *Once I Was You*.

Emmy Award winning NPR journalist Maria Hinojosa relates the history of immigration policy today and shares her experiences growing up Mexican-American in Chicago.

Miranda, Lin-Manuel. *In the Heights*.

Miranda offers untold stories, essays, and lyrics to the songs from "In the Heights", his breakout Broadway debut.

Ramos, Paola. *Finding Latinx: In Search of the Voices Redefining Latino Identity*.

An empowering cross country travelogue on the diversity of the Latino experience.

HISPANIC HERITAGE: Recommended Books



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

FICTION

Acevedo, Elizabeth. *Clap When You Land*.

Two half sisters unknown to each other and separated by an ocean are brought together by their shared grief when their father is killed in a plane crash.

Allende, Isabel. *A Long Petal of the Sea*.

A 23 year old medical student named Victor flees Spain during the Spanish Civil War with his brother's pregnant widow, who he convinces to marry him, so they can gain passage on a ship to Chile. A story of the suffering of war and displacement, but also of human strength, hope, and rebirth.

Alvarez, Julie. *Afterlife*.

Antonia Vega is grieving the death of her husband, when she finds an undocumented pregnant teenage girl on her doorstep. Antonia has always believed in the American values of self-preservation and independence, yet begins to question her values and embrace her husband's spirit of kindness, and empathy.

Cisneros, Sandra. *The House on Mango Street*.

Esperanza Cordero, a girl coming of age in the Hispanic quarter of Chicago, uses poems to express thoughts and emotions about her oppressive environment.

Cruz, Angie. *Dominicana*.

A 15 year old Dominican girl marries a man twice her age in order to emigrate to the United States. Ana becomes determined to help her family by earning her own money when her abusive husband goes back to the Dominican to work.

Daria, Alexis. *A Lot Like Adios*.

Michelle Amato, a graphic designer is brought together with an old flame when he opens a gym and she becomes the head of the marketing campaign.

FICTION

Dias, Hernan. *Trust*.

The tale of Andrew Bevel, an American oligarch whose manipulations may have caused the Great Depression. *Oprah Daily* calls it a "genre bending, time skipping story about New York City's elite in the roaring 20's and Great Depression."

Esquivel, Laura. *Like Water For Chocolate*.

A charming tale of family life in 20th century Mexico in which a girl grows up to be a master chef. Recipes included!

Fajardo-Anstine, Kali. *Woman of the Light*.

The story of five generations of an indigenous Chicano family in the U.S. West. Laundress and tea leaf reader, Luz "Little Light" Lopez is left to fend for herself when her snake charming, factory worker brother is run out of town by a white mob. She begins to have visions of her homeland that leave her determined to save her ancestors' stories.

Flores, Fernando A. *Tears of the Truffle Pig*.

A surreal debut novel, combining magical realism, sci/fi, and politics in the story of an every day man's life in the criminal world.

Garcia, Gabriela. *Of Women and Salt*.

A sweeping multigenerational story about two Latinx families, their struggles and triumphs.

Gonzalez, Xochitl. *Olga Dies Dreaming*.

This International Latino Book Award finalist is the tale of a status driven wedding planner struggling with social ambitions, an absent mother, and her Puerto Rican roots—all in the wake of hurricane Maria.

FICTION

Henriquez, Cristina. *The Book of Unknown Americans*.

The story of 15 year old Maribel Rivera whose family leaves a comfortable life in Mexico behind, so that Maribel can be treated in the U.S. for a terrible injury.

Machado, Carmen Maria. *Her Body and Other Parties*.

A genre bending collection of short stories encompassing sci/fi, psychological realism, comedy, horror, fantasy and fabulism. This collection depicts women's lives and the violence visited on their bodies.

Moreno Garcia, Silvia. *Gods of Jade and Shadow*.

The Mayan God of Death sends a young woman on a harrowing, life changing journey in this dark fairy tale inspired by Mexican folklore.

Moreno Garcia, Silvia. *Mexican Gothic*.

Noemi, a flirtatious socialite and college student, travels from 1950's Mexico City, to rescue her cousin Catalina from marriage to a silver mining mogul in a creepy Mexican mountain villa called High Place.

Nicieza, Fabian. *The Self Made Widow*.

An engrossing murder mystery featuring FBI profiler turned suburban mom, Andie Stern.

Rivera, Gabby. *Juliet Takes a Breath*.

A young Puerto Rican lesbian comes out to her family to disastrous results the night before flying to Portland to intern with her feminist author icon—whom Juliet soon realizes excludes women of color in her feminism.