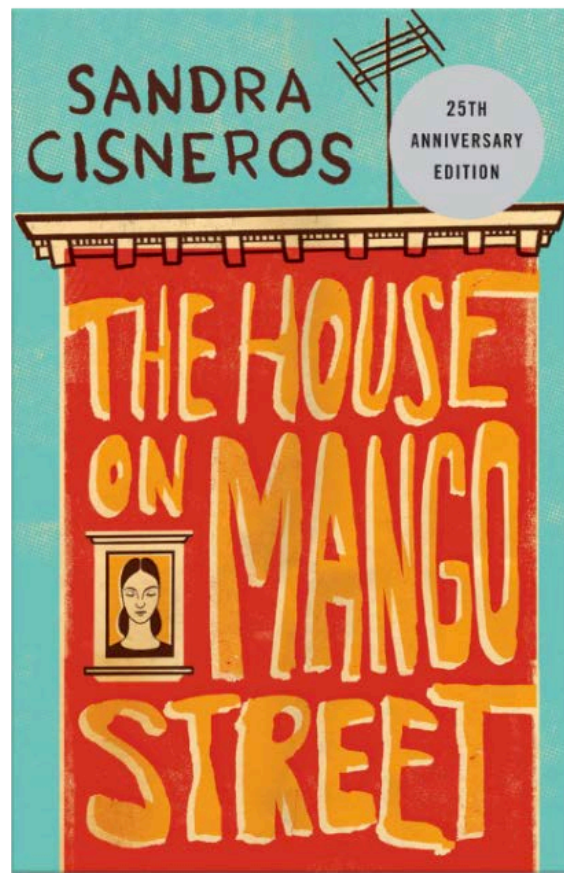


Miami Book Fair  
Miami Dade College



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

## NEA BIG READ





# WHAT WE'RE READING

## The House On Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

In a small Chicago neighborhood, Esperanza Cordero, a 12-year-old Mexican American girl, comes of age in a world of contradictions. Her community is alive with beauty and resilience, but also marked by poverty, limitation, and the rigid expectations placed on young women. Esperanza longs for something more, a life beyond her rundown street and the low hopes the world seems to have for her.

Told in a series of eloquent and hauntingly brief vignettes, *The House on Mango Street* captures a year in Esperanza's life as she begins to understand how her surroundings shape her, and how she can begin to shape herself. She witnesses the quiet suffering of women, the pull of the streets, and the weight of family and culture, yet she also discovers strength, joy, and her own voice. Determined to break free from the limitations around her, Esperanza learns to invent herself anew and imagines a future where she truly belongs to herself.

*The House on Mango Street* has become a cornerstone of contemporary American literature, and a classic of the coming-of-age genre. Acclaimed by critics, beloved by readers of all ages, it is embraced by generations for its profound humanity, lyricism, and truth.



**Sandra Cisneros** is an internationally acclaimed poet, novelist, and essayist whose work explores themes of identity, belonging, and cultural heritage. Her many honors include NEA fellowships in both poetry and fiction, a MacArthur Fellowship, the National Medal of Arts, and the PEN/Nabokov Award for Achievement in International Literature. Cisneros lives in San Miguel de Allende, where she continues to write and mentor emerging writers through the Macondo and Alfredo Cisneros del Moral foundation she established.



## WHY WE'RE READING

The NEA Big Read, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest, broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. This initiative offers grants to support innovative community reading programs designed around a single book.



## INTRODUCTION

To deepen our engagement with this year's NEA Big Read and grow together as a community of readers, this guide offers discussion questions, recommended readings, and additional resources. Whether you join a book club, attend our in-person or online events, or read on your own, you'll find connection and inspiration here, because no great book is ever read alone!

This year, we explore identity, belonging, and how our surroundings shape us through Sandra Cisneros's *The House on Mango Street*. This beloved coming-of-age novel invites us to reflect on the spaces we come from, and the ones we create, as we navigate hope, courage, and connection.





## ABOUT MIAMI BOOK FAIR

The Miami Book Fair began in 1984 as a two-day street fair and has since grown into one of the most significant cultural events in the South Florida region, the most comprehensively programmed book fair in the nation, and an internationally recognized model of excellence. Each November, the Fair brings together more than 500 authors, 200 exhibitors, and thousands of readers of all ages for eight days of conversations, readings, and cultural events. Throughout the year, we continue that mission with programs and events that keep our community inspired, engaged, and connected through books.



## ABOUT THE NEA

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), established by Congress in 1965, is an independent federal agency and the largest funder of the arts and arts education in communities nationwide. It serves as a catalyst for both public and private support, advancing equitable opportunities for everyone to participate in and benefit from the arts across the United States.



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1. The book opens with Esperanza's description of her house on Mango Street. How does this description reflect her sense of self and her feelings about her family's place in the world?
2. What does Esperanza find shameful or burdensome about her name? Why might Cisneros have chosen this name for her protagonist?
3. How does Esperanza's relationship with her younger sister, Nenny, shape her understanding of family and identity?
4. Many of Esperanza's observations focus on the women in her neighborhood. What does she learn from figures like Marin, Alicia, Sally, and Rafaela about womanhood and independence?
5. How does Esperanza begin to see her community differently as she grows older? What tensions arise between her desire to belong and her longing to leave?
6. The novel explores how Esperanza distinguishes herself from her family and friends. What are some moments where she asserts her individuality?
7. Esperanza's use of simile and metaphor gives her narrative a poetic quality. How do her descriptions of people, objects, and places reveal her perspective?
8. How do stories like "The Family of Little Feet" and "Sire" reveal Esperanza's growing awareness of sexuality? How does this awareness change her?
9. How does Esperanza's experience at her first job challenge her sense of safety and trust?
10. In what ways does Esperanza's relationship with her father differ from her relationships with the women around her?
11. Violence, especially against women, appears throughout the book. How does Esperanza process the violence she witnesses and experiences?
12. Esperanza often finds strength in nature, like the four skinny trees outside her house. What do these trees symbolize for her?
13. Esperanza dreams of having "a house of my own." How does this dream change over the course of the book?
14. In the final chapters, the three sisters tell Esperanza that she must return for those she leaves behind. What does this moment mean for her understanding of home and community?
15. How does Cisneros use the recurring image of a house to tie together the book's themes of identity, freedom, and belonging?
16. How was Esperanza's story universal, even as it is deeply rooted in her specific cultural and neighborhood experience?

*Discussion questions adapted from the Penguin Random House Reader's Guide.*





## PREGUNTAS DE DISCUSIÓN



1. El libro comienza con la descripción que hace Esperanza de su casa en Mango Street. ¿Cómo refleja esta descripción su sentido de la identidad y sus sentimientos sobre el lugar que ocupa su familia en el mundo?
2. ¿Qué es lo que Esperanza considera vergonzoso o una carga respecto a su nombre? ¿Por qué crees que Cisneros eligió este nombre para su protagonista?
3. ¿Cómo moldea la relación de Esperanza con su hermana pequeña, Nenny, su manera de entender la familia y la identidad?
4. Muchas de las observaciones de esperanza se centran en las mujeres de su barrio. ¿qué aprende de figuras como Marin, Alicia, Sally y Rafaela sobre la feminidad y la independencia?
5. ¿Cómo empieza esperanza a ver su comunidad de manera diferente a medida que crece? ¿Qué tensiones surgieron entre su deseo de pertenecer y su anhelo de marcharse?
6. La novela explora como esperanza se distingue de su familia y de sus amigas. ¿Cuáles son algunos de los momentos en los que afirma su individualidad?
7. El uso que hace esperanza de símiles y metáforas le da a su narración una calidad poética. ¿Cómo revelan sus descripciones de personas, objetos y lugares su manera de ver el mundo?
8. ¿Cómo revelan historias como “La familia de los pies pequeños” y “Sire” la creciente conciencia de la sexualidad en esperanza? ¿Cómo le cambia esta conciencia?
9. ¿Cómo desafía su sentido de seguridad y confianza la experiencia de esperanza en su primer trabajo?
10. ¿En qué se diferencia la relación de esperanza con su padre de las relaciones que tiene con las mujeres que la rodean?
11. La violencia, especialmente contra las mujeres, aparece a lo largo del libro. ¿Cómo procesa esperanza la violencia que presencia y que vive?
12. Esperanza encuentra a menudo fuerza en la naturaleza, como en los cuatro árboles delgados frente a su casa. ¿Qué simbolizan para ella estos árboles?
13. Esperanza sueña con tener “una casa solo para mí”. ¿Cómo cambia este sueño a lo largo del libro?
14. En los capítulos finales, las tres hermanas le dicen a Esperanza que debe regresar por las personas que dejó atrás. ¿Qué significa este momento para su comprensión del hogar y la comunidad?
15. ¿Cómo utiliza Cisneros la imagen recurrente de una casa para unir los temas del libro: identidad, libertad y pertenencia?
16. ¿Cómo resulta la historia de esperanza universal, a pesar de estar profundamente arraigada en su experiencia cultural y en su barrio?



## ALSO BY SANDRA CISNEROS

### Novels

*Caramelo* (2002) — Available in English & in Spanish

*Martita, I Remember You / Martita, te recuerdo* (2021) — English & Spanish Edition

### Short Story Collections

*Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories* (1991)

*El arroyo de la Llorona y otros cuentos* (1991)

*Vintage Cisneros* (2004)

### Poetry

*Bad Boys* (1980)

*My Wicked, Wicked Ways* (1987)

*Mis maneras perversas* (1987)

*Loose Woman: Poems* (1994)

*Puro Amor* (2018) — English & Spanish Edition

*Woman Without Shame: Poems* (2022)

*Mujer sin vergüenza: Poemas* (2022)

### Memoirs

*A House of My Own* (2015)

*Una casa propia* (2015)

### Children's Books

*Hairs / Pelitos* (1994) — English & Spanish Edition

*Bravo Bruno! / ¡Bravo Bruno!* (2011) — Italian & Spanish Edition

*Have You Seen Marie?* (2012)

*¿Has visto a María?* (2012)

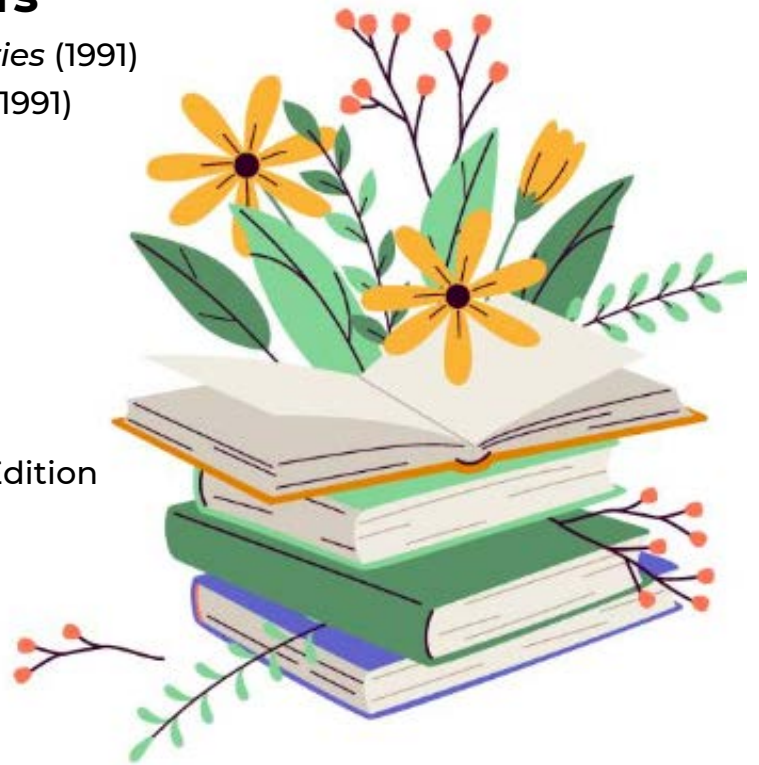
### Anthologies & Contributions

*Border Voices II: A Book of Poetry and Prose* (2004)

*Five Short Stories by Women* (2021)

*A Very Mexican Christmas* (2022)

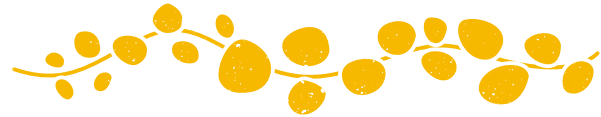
*Latino Poetry: The Library of America Anthology* (2024)



## BEYOND THE BOOK

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT *THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET*  
AND EXPLORE ITS THEMES OF HOME, IDENTITY, AND  
COMMUNITY.

### INTERVIEWS & CONVERSATIONS



“Recognizing Ourselves,” Interview with Sandra Cisneros,  
American Artscape Magazine (2016, Issue 1).

[Arts.gov](http://Arts.gov)

An Evening with Sandra Cisneros & Jan Beatty:  
*On Martita, I Remember You / Martita, te recuerdo*  
[Miami Book Fair Online](#)



### MULTIMEDIA & ADAPTATIONS

[Opera: The House on Mango Street](#)

[Short Film: The House on Mango Street](#)

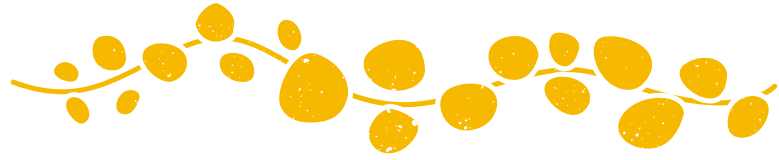
[Sneak Peek: “The Monkey Garden”](#)





## RELATED EXPERIENCES

### MIAMI MANGO MOMENTS

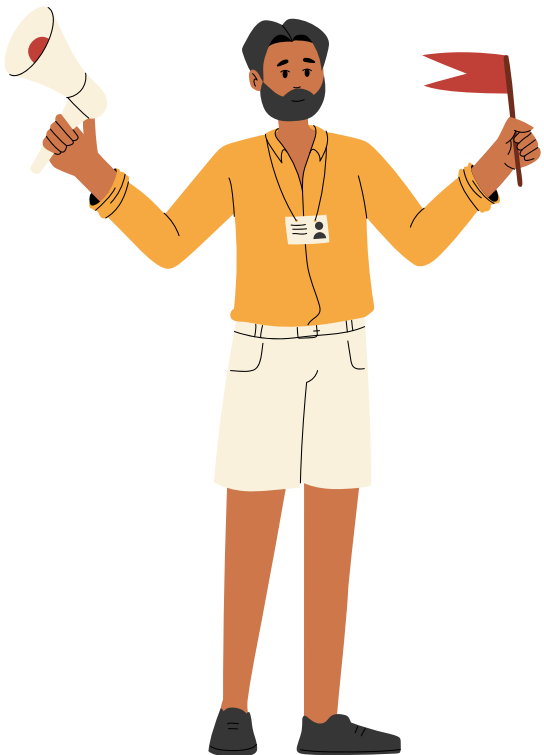


Conversation: On Mango and Peppercorns: A Memoir of Food, an Unlikely Family, and the American Dream

Mango Festival: Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden (July)

Miami Fruit Mango Box: Enjoy exotic, hand-picked mangoes

Mango Specialty Tour: Rare mango varieties at Fruit & Spice Park



### GET TO KNOW MIAMI: TOURS

Big Bus Tour: Hop On, Hop Off

Little Haiti Walking Tour

Little Havana Food & Walking Tour

South Beach Art Deco Walking Tour

Overtown Tap Tap Tours

Wynwood: Street Art Walking Tour

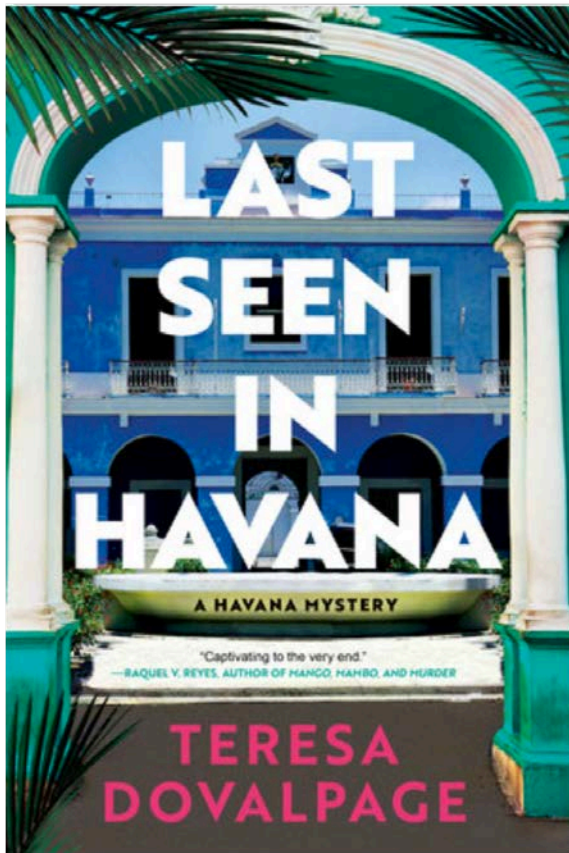


# FICTION

# FICTION

## LAST SEEN IN HAVANA

By Teresa Dovalpage



**An immersive mystery of lost mothers, hidden pasts, and the haunting pulse of Havana.**

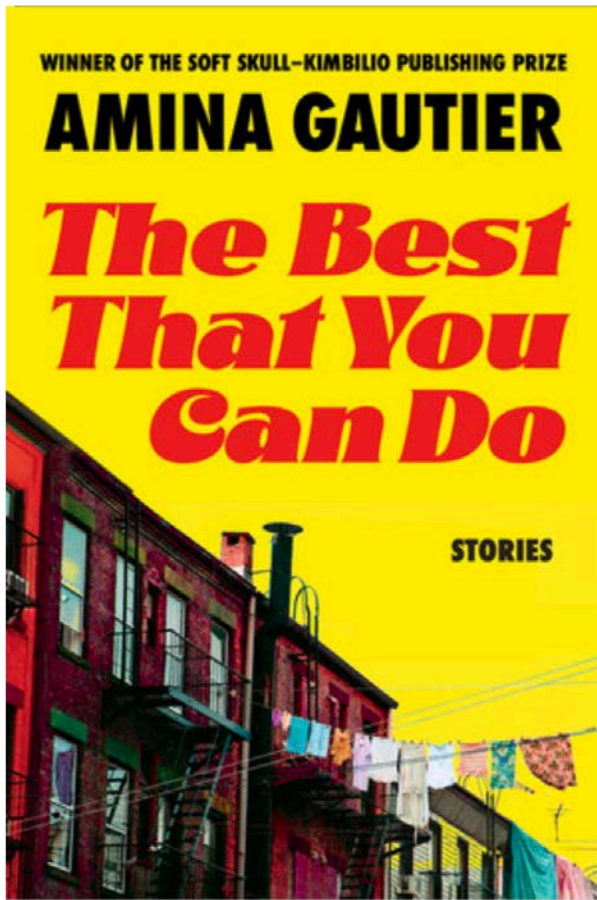
Newly widowed Mercedes Spivey returns from Miami to Havana in 2019 to care for her grandmother—and to confront the unresolved disappearance of her mother decades earlier. Her search intertwines with the story of an idealistic American student who fell in love with a Cuban soldier in 1986, only to discover that Havana hides more than it reveals. As the two narratives converge, Mercedes uncovers family secrets that reshape her understanding of identity, love, and belonging.

**TERESA DOVALPAGE** (Havana, 1966) is a novelist, playwright, and professor. Now based in New Mexico, she has published more than a dozen books, including *Death Comes in through the Kitchen* and *Queen of Bones*. Her work explores Cuban diaspora, family ties, and the weight of memory, often blending humor, suspense, and sharp cultural critique.

# FICTION

## THE BEST THAT YOU CAN DO: STORIES

By Amina Gautier



**A vibrant portrait of family, heritage, and the search for belonging across borders.**

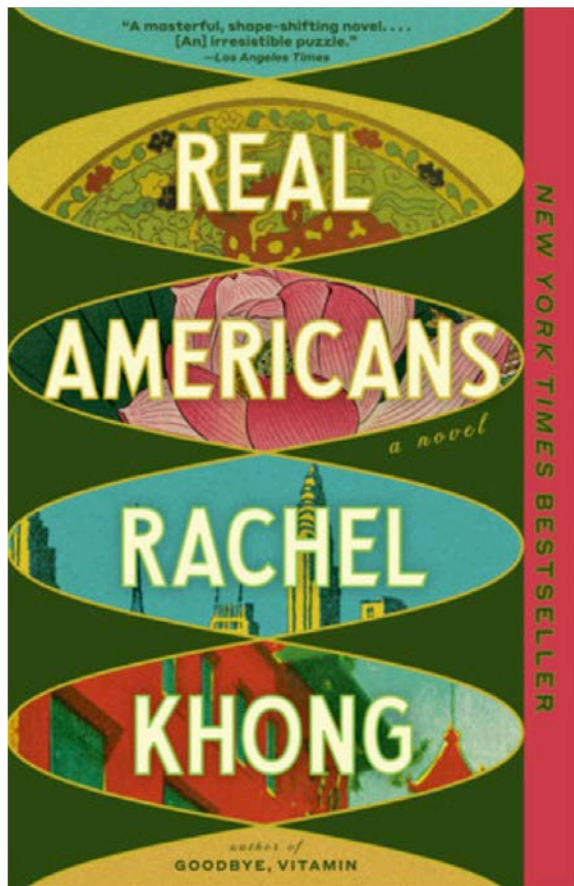
Winner of the 2023 Soft Skull–Kimbilio Publishing Prize, this collection of linked short stories explores the complexities of diasporic life, split identities, and the resilience of family ties. Told largely through the voices of women and children in the Northeast with deep roots in Puerto Rico, the stories capture summers of cousins, aunts, and grandparents alongside the ache of displacement and cultural conflict. With honesty and lyricism, Gautier portrays the universal language of survival, love, and becoming.

**AMINA GAUTIER** is the author of four award-winning short story collections, including *At-Risk*, *Now We Will Be Happy*, and *The Loss of All Lost Things*. A professor of literature and creative writing, she is recognized for her powerful explorations of Black and Latinx identities, diaspora, and family life. *The Best That You Can Do* affirms her place as one of today's most insightful voices in contemporary fiction.

# FICTION

## REAL AMERICANS

By Rachel Khong



**A sweeping family saga about identity, inheritance, and who gets to shape our futures.**

Spanning three generations, *Real Americans* follows Lily Chen, the daughter of Chinese immigrants who falls for the heir of a pharmaceutical empire at the brink of Y2K; her teenage son Nick, searching for identity on a remote Washington island in 2021; and the legacy of choices that ripple across their family. In sharp, heartfelt prose, Rachel Khong explores race, class, belonging, and the question of whether our lives are shaped by destiny—or by the forces that seek to define us.

**RACHEL KHONG** is the author of the award-winning debut *Goodbye, Vitamin* and the *New York Times* bestselling *Real Americans*. Her work often blends humor and tenderness with probing questions of identity, family, and memory. She lives in California, where she also edits *The Ruby*, a publication devoted to women writers and artists.

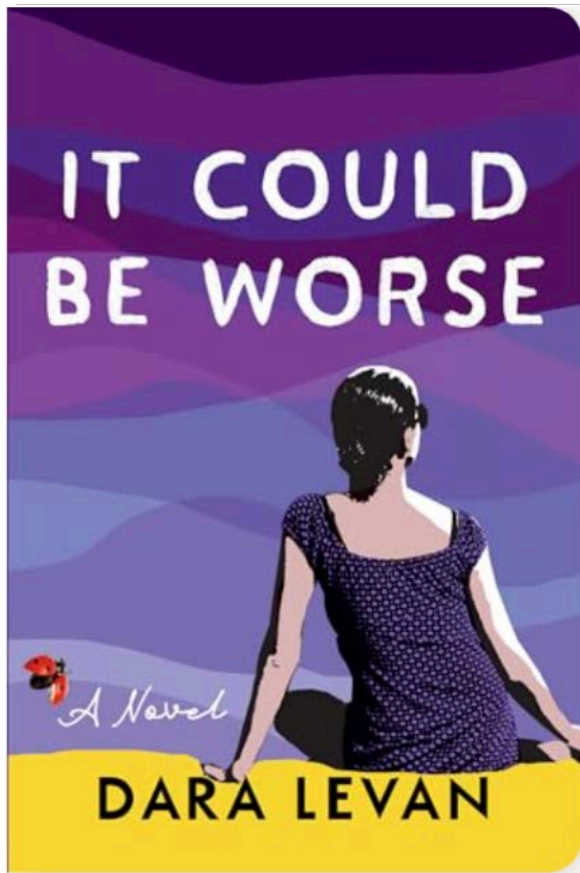




# FICTION

## IT COULD BE WORSE

By Dara Levan



**A powerful debut about family secrets, resilience, and the courage to rewrite your story.**

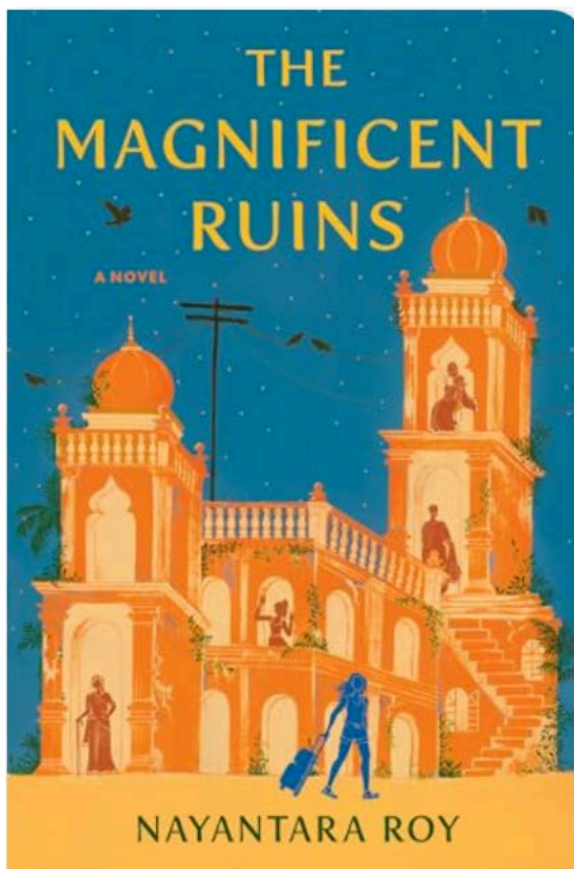
Allegra Gil seems to have it all—a loving family, a thriving therapy practice, and lifelong friends—until a hidden letter reveals a devastating family secret that shakes her world. As memories resurface and the past collides with the present, Allegra must navigate truth, betrayal, and the meaning of forgiveness. Set between Miami and Michigan, *It Could Be Worse* is a moving debut about resilience, love, and the stories we choose to carry.

**DARA LEVAN** is a writer, podcast host, and former pediatric speech-language pathologist. She is the founder of Every Soul Has a Story, a platform exploring love, loss, and resilience. A graduate of Indiana University, she lives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

# FICTION

## THE MAGNIFICENT RUINS

By Nayantara Roy



**A multi-generational story of inheritance, secrets, and the cost of silence.**

When Brooklyn book editor Lila De unexpectedly inherits her family's vast ancestral estate in Kolkata, she is forced to confront the past she thought she'd left behind. Amid strained reunions with estranged relatives, rekindled relationships, and buried secrets that resurface, Lila must navigate questions of identity, legacy, and belonging. Spanning continents and generations, *The Magnificent Ruins* is a sweeping debut about the ties that bind and unravel families.

**NAYANTARA ROY** is a debut novelist and accomplished television executive. Drawing on her Indian American background, she crafts stories that blend family history, cultural inheritance, and personal reckoning. *The Magnificent Ruins* is her first novel, introducing her as a powerful new voice in contemporary fiction.

# FICTION

## QUE TENGA UNA CASA

By Florencia del Campo



**Una meditación poética sobre el hogar como refugio y prisión, memoria y destino.**

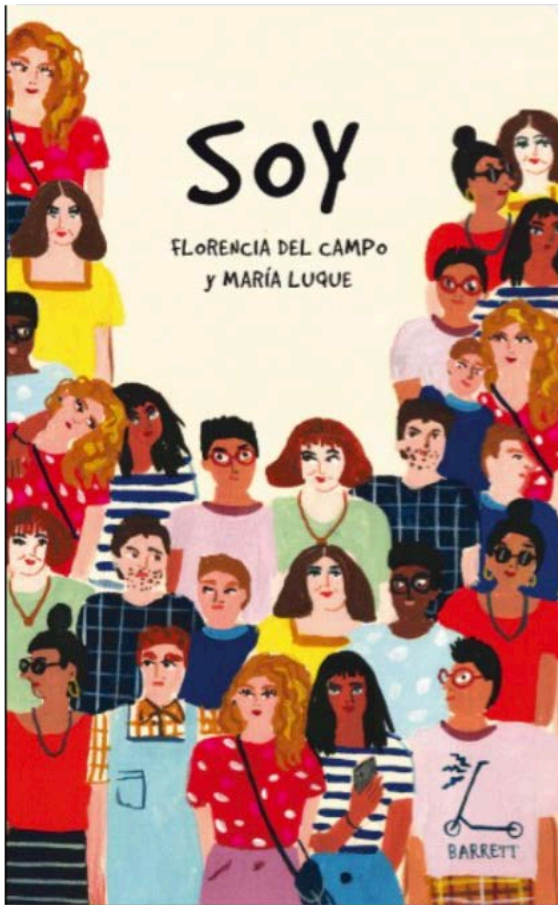
En esta novela lírica, Florencia del Campo recorre una vida a través de las casas habitadas—las de la infancia, las prestadas, las heredadas en ruina—cada una cargada de memoria, pérdida y pertenencia. Entre Argentina y España, se pregunta: ¿qué significa tener un hogar? ¿Es un lugar, una familia, un cuerpo? A partir de migraciones e historias familiares, la autora explora la tensión entre raíces y desarraigo, refugio y encierro, presencia y ausencia.

**FLORENCIA DEL CAMPO** (Buenos Aires, 1982) es novelista y periodista argentina afincada en España. Le interesa escribir sobre lo íntimo y lo migrante: la memoria de las casas, los vínculos familiares, la extranjería. Es autora de *Madre mía*, *La huésped*, y *La versión extranjera*. Cree que toda mudanza es también una pregunta sobre identidad, y que la literatura sirve para habitar lo propio y lo ajeno al mismo tiempo.

# FICTION

## SOY

By Florencia del Campo



**Una novela juvenil sobre crecer, descubrirse y atreverse a ser.**

Lola es medio inmigrante, medio huérfana, feminista, contradictoria, cinéfila, hermana y amiga, pero aún está buscando quién es. Tras aprobar la selectividad, viaja con su mejor amiga a una ciudad costera en busca de trabajo y nuevas experiencias. En este verano iniciático se enfrentará al deseo, la familia, el cuerpo, el duelo y el amor, en un recorrido íntimo hacia la identidad y la independencia.

**FLORENCIA DEL CAMPO** (Buenos Aires, 1982) es novelista y periodista argentina afincada en España. Le interesa escribir sobre lo íntimo y lo migrante: la memoria de las casas, los vínculos familiares, la extranjería. Es autora de *Madre mía*, *La huésped*, *La versión extranjera* y *Que tenga una casa*. Cree que toda mudanza es también una pregunta sobre identidad, y que la literatura sirve para habitar lo propio y lo ajeno al mismo tiempo.



# NONFICTION



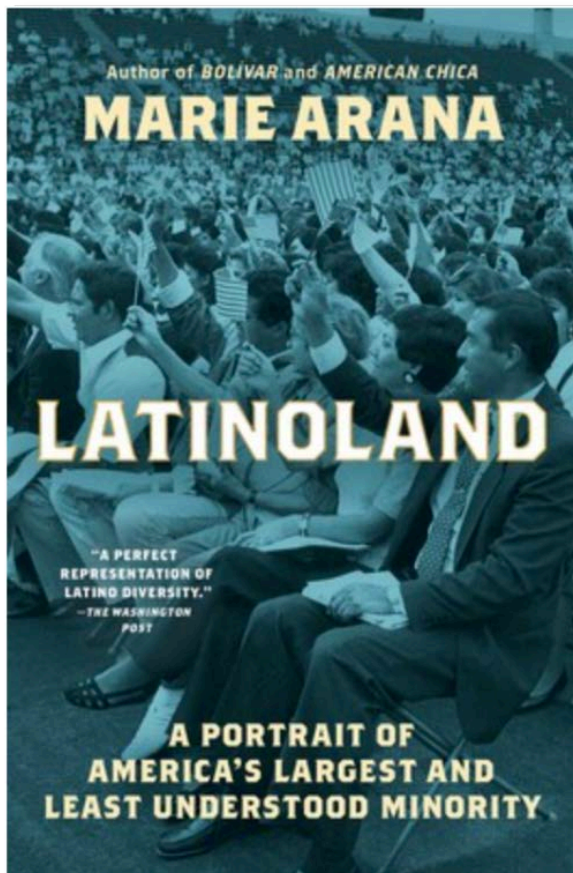




# NONFICTION

## LATINOLAND: A PORTRAIT OF AMERICA'S LARGEST AND LEAST UNDERSTOOD MINORITY

By Marie Arana



**A comprehensive portrait of Latino identity, history, and the future of America.**

Drawing on hundreds of interviews, deep research, and her own bicultural experience, Marie Arana offers a sweeping portrait of Latinos in the United States—their history, diversity, and growing influence. From the earliest settlers to today's twenty percent of the U.S. population, *LatinoLand* explores the cultural, racial, and political variety within communities often seen as a monolith. At once personal and panoramic, this book is a vital, timely exploration of the fastest-growing group in America.

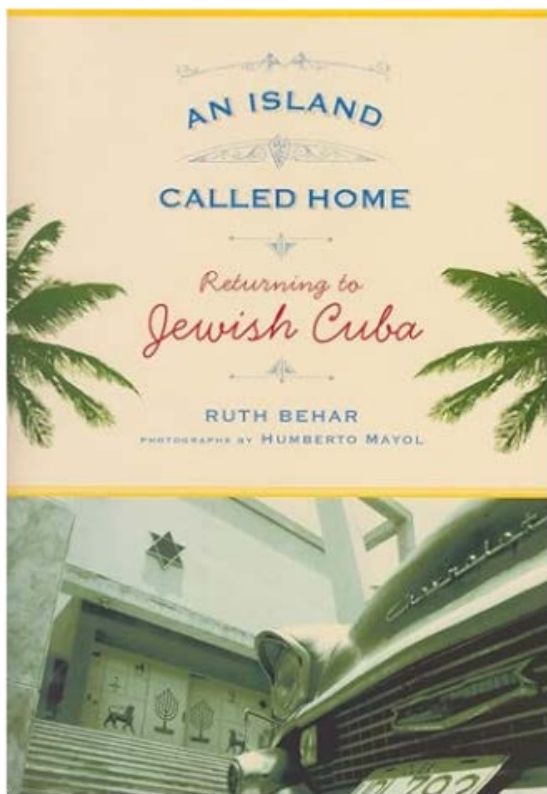
**MARIE ARANA** is a Peruvian American author, journalist, and literary critic. She has written widely acclaimed works of fiction and nonfiction, including *American Chica* and *Bolívar: American Liberator*. Formerly editor-in-chief of Book World at *The Washington Post*, she currently serves as the inaugural Literary Director of the Library of Congress. Her work often bridges cultures, illuminating Latin American and U.S. identities.



# NONFICTION

## AN ISLAND CALLED HOME: RETURNING TO JEWISH CUBA

By Ruth Behar



**A lyrical exploration of Jewish life in Cuba and the meaning of home in exile.**

In this moving blend of memoir, oral history, and photography, Ruth Behar returns to her native Cuba to explore the stories of the island's Jewish community. Through portraits of those who stayed, those who left, and those who returned, she weaves together questions of exile, identity, and belonging. With tenderness and insight, *An Island Called Home* captures the resilience of a community and the enduring pull of the place we call home.

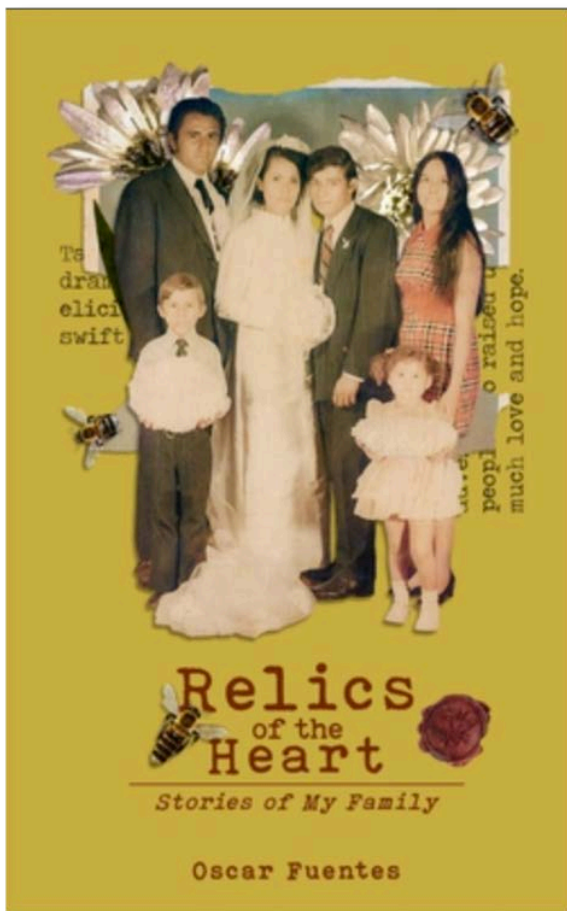
**RUTH BEHAR** is a Cuban-born cultural anthropologist, writer, and translator. Winner of the MacArthur "Genius" Award, she is known for her explorations of identity, diaspora, and memory across memoir, ethnography, and fiction. Her books include *An Island Called Home*, *Traveling Heavy*, and the award-winning children's novels *Lucky Broken Girl* and *Across So Many Seas*.



# NONFICTION

## RELICS OF THE HEART: STORIES OF MY FAMILY

By Oscar Fuentes



**A moving tribute to the power of family and the memories that endure.**

In this intimate collection, Oscar Fuentes draws on family memories to illuminate the moments—both simple and profound—that shape our lives. From shared meals and celebrations to the difficult realities of illness and loss, *Relics of the Heart* is a heartfelt meditation on love, resilience, and the ties that hold families together across time.

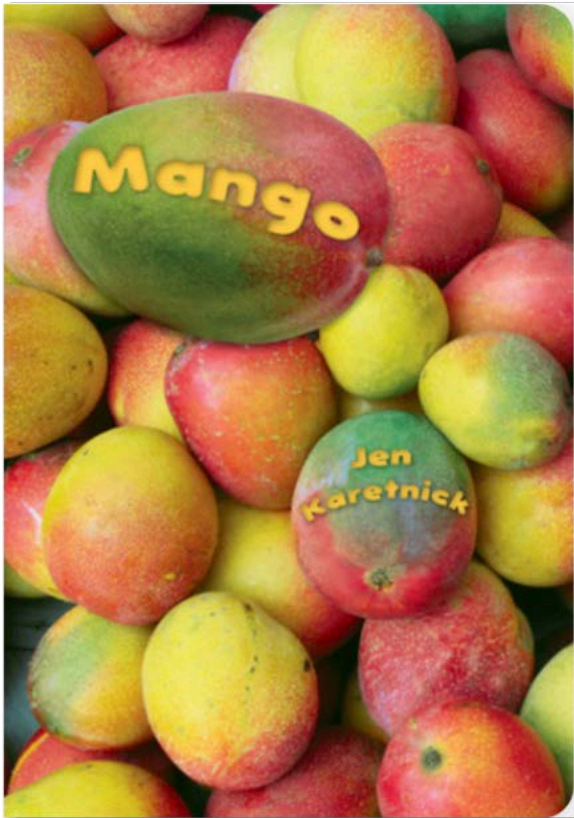
**OSCAR FUENTES**, also known as The Biscayne Poet, is a Miami-based writer, storyteller, and performer. His work often blends poetry, memoir, and community engagement, highlighting themes of family, identity, and resilience. *Relics of the Heart* continues his commitment to honoring personal history through art and story.



# NONFICTION

## MANGO

By Jen Karetnick



**A flavorful tour of the mango in all its sweet, savory, and surprising forms.**

In this vibrant cookbook, Miami's "Mango Mama" Jen Karetnick celebrates the versatility of the tropical fruit through recipes that range from smoothies and cocktails to savory mains and decadent desserts. Drawing from the bounty of her own mango trees and contributions from celebrated chefs, *MANGO* is both a culinary guide and a love letter to the fruit. With tips on selecting, preserving, and cooking mangos year-round, this book transforms the way you'll think about—and taste—them.

**JEN KARETNICK** is a Miami-based poet, journalist, and cookbook author. Known as "Mango Mama" for her passion and expertise, she has written extensively about food, culture, and the arts. Her culinary writing blends creativity and precision, making her a trusted voice on both the page and the plate.

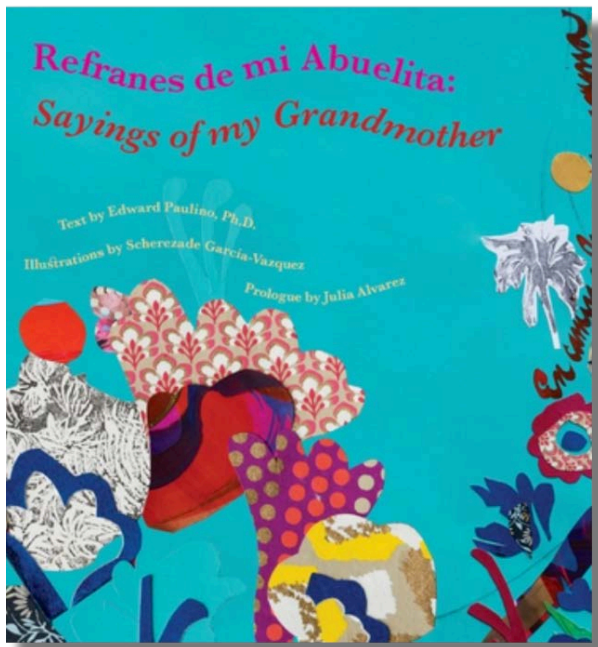




# NONFICTION

## REFRANES DE MI ABUELITA: SAYINGS OF MY GRANDMOTHER

By Edward Paulino



**A colorful tribute to Dominican heritage, family wisdom, and the timeless voice of abuelita.**

This bilingual collection celebrates the wisdom, humor, and resilience of Dominican culture through the cherished sayings of the author's grandmother. Accompanied by Scherezade García Vásquez's vibrant illustrations, *Refranes de Mi Abuelita* brings to life proverbs that carry generations of memory and guidance, from the island to New York City. A book of family, heritage, and the power of words, it is both a keepsake and a bridge between past and present.

**EDWARD PAULINO** is a historian, writer, and professor whose work explores Dominican and Haitian history, culture, and diaspora. Through scholarship and storytelling, he highlights the intersections of memory, identity, and community. *Refranes de Mi Abuelita* honors his family's legacy while celebrating Dominican traditions for new generations.

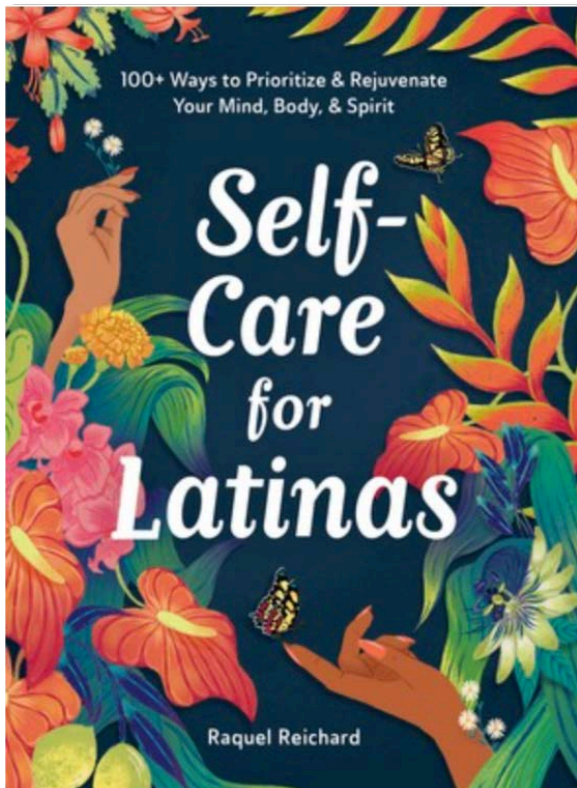




# NONFICTION

## **SELF-CARE FOR LATINAS: 100+ WAYS TO PRIORITIZE & REJUVENATE YOUR MIND, BODY & SPIRIT**

By Raquel Reichard



**A practical and affirming guide for Latinas to center wellness, joy, and self-love.**

This empowering guide offers over 100 exercises designed to help Latinas prioritize their well-being, manage stress, and embrace joy in the face of systemic and everyday challenges. With practices for mental health, boundaries, body positivity, and self-advocacy, *Self-Care for Latinas* is both a toolkit and a reminder that choosing yourself is a radical act of healing and strength.

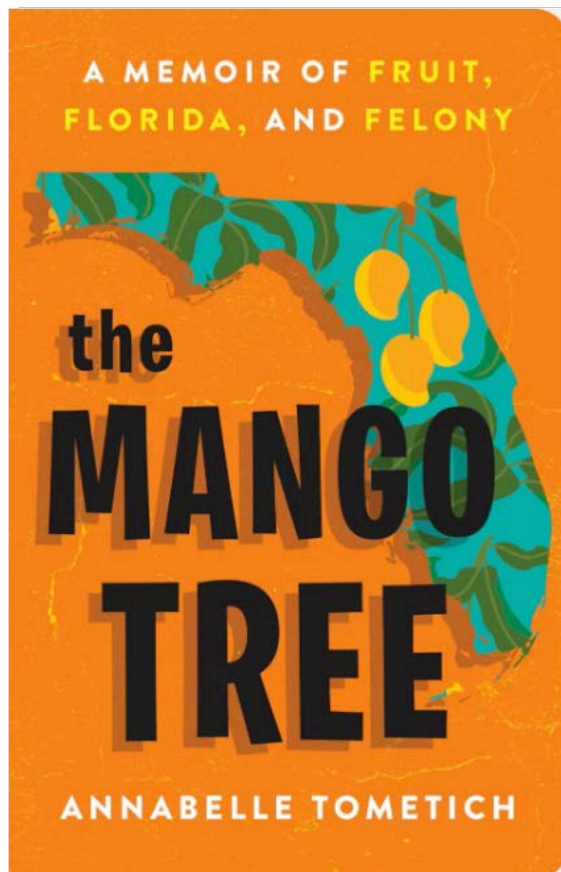
**RAQUEL REICHARD** is an award-winning journalist and editor whose work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Refinery29*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Teen Vogue*, and more. Based in Orlando, she writes on Latin body politics, culture, and music, and is the founder of Borilando, a nonprofit serving Puerto Ricans in Central Florida. Her work consistently amplifies and affirms the voices of Latinas and women of color.



# NONFICTION

## THE MANGO TREE: A MEMOIR OF FRUIT, FLORIDA, AND FELONY

By Annabelle Tometich



**A fearless memoir of family, identity, and the tangled roots of belonging.**

When Annabelle Tometich's mother is arrested for defending her beloved mangoes, the moment sparks a reckoning with family history, identity, and belonging. In this memoir, the journalist traces her life as a mixed-race Filipina growing up in suburban Florida, navigating her father's death, her mother's longing for home, and her own path from medical-school hopeful to restaurant critic. Honest and deeply compassionate, *The Mango Tree* is a portrait of family, heritage, and the fruit tree at the heart of it all.

**ANNABELLE TOMETICH** is a journalist and restaurant critic whose work has appeared in major outlets including *The Washington Post* and *Bon Appétit*. Drawing on her Filipina American heritage and Florida upbringing, her writing blends sharp cultural insight with humor and heart.



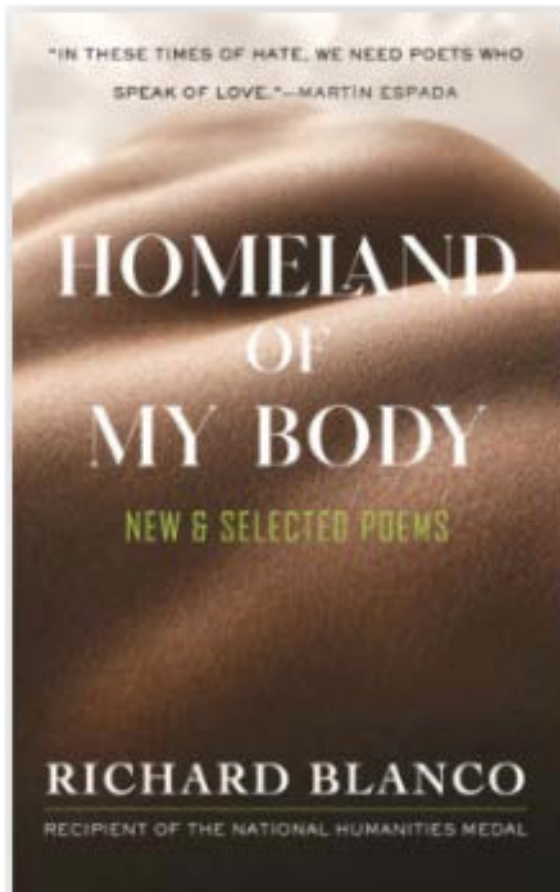
# POETRY



# POETRY

## HOMELAND OF MY BODY

By Richard Blanco



**A sweeping collection of poems on home, identity, and the search for belonging.**

Gathering work from across his career alongside new poems, Richard Blanco reflects on themes of home, identity, love, and belonging in the American landscape. With lyricism rooted in his Cuban heritage and immigrant experience, *Homeland of My Body* charts a journey across borders both real and metaphorical, offering a deeply personal yet universal meditation on what it means to belong.

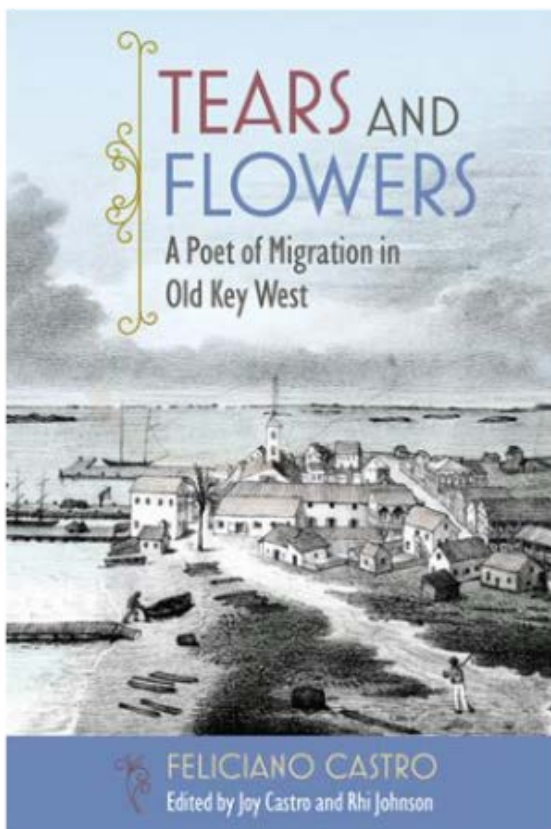
**RICHARD BLANCO** is the fifth presidential inaugural poet in U.S. history and the first Latino, immigrant, and openly gay writer to hold the role. Born in Madrid to Cuban exile parents and raised in Miami, he is the author of several acclaimed poetry collections and memoirs. His work often bridges the personal and political, illuminating the complexities of cultural identity and belonging.



# POETRY

## TEARS AND FLOWERS: A POET OF MIGRATION IN OLD KEY WEST

By Feliciano Castro y Joy Castro



**A recovered literary gem illuminating Cuban émigré life in early Key West.**

This bilingual edition brings the poetry of Feliciano Castro into English for the first time. Originally published in 1918, his poems capture the everyday lives, longings, and cultural identity of Cuban émigrés in Florida's early twentieth-century cigar industry. With translation by Rhi Johnson and an introduction by Joy Castro, *Tears and Flowers* recovers a vital literary voice while offering a rare glimpse into migration, belonging, and Cuban American community history.

**FELICIANO CASTRO** (1892–1982) was a poet, printer, editor, and lector who lived for more than six decades in Key West, publishing *Lágrimas y flores* in 1918.

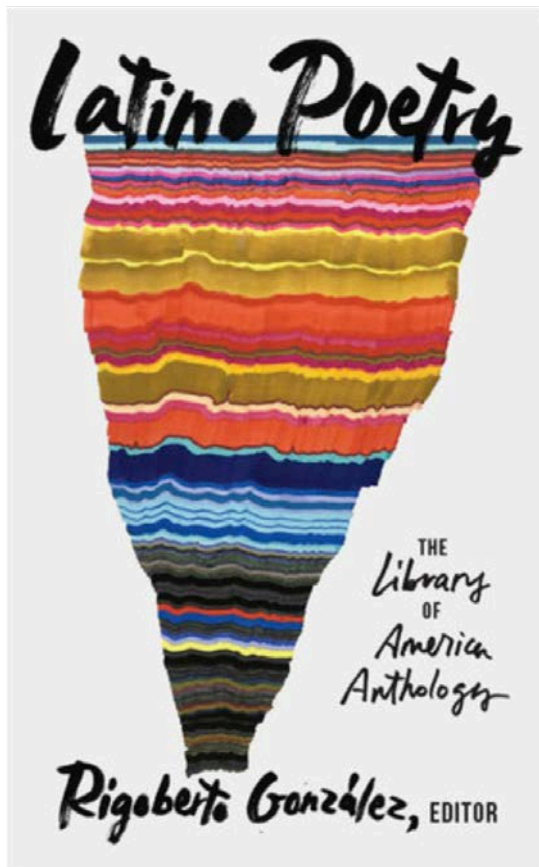
**JOY CASTRO** is the Willa Cather Professor of English and Ethnic Studies at the University of Nebraska and author of *One Brilliant Flame* and *Island of Bones*. As Castro's granddaughter, she brings both scholarship and personal connection to this edition.



# POETRY

## LATINO POETRY: THE LIBRARY OF AMERICA ANTHOLOGY

By Rigoberto González



**A definitive anthology celebrating the richness and range of Latino poetic tradition.**

This landmark anthology brings together more than 180 Latino poets from the 17th century to today, presenting a sweeping portrait of nearly five centuries of poetry in English and Spanish. From José Martí and Julia de Burgos to Ada Limón and Javier Zamora, the collection celebrates the richness and diversity of Latino voices while exploring themes of identity, language, exile, belonging, and transformation. With both historical and contemporary perspectives, *Latino Poetry* is the most comprehensive survey of Latino poetry ever published.

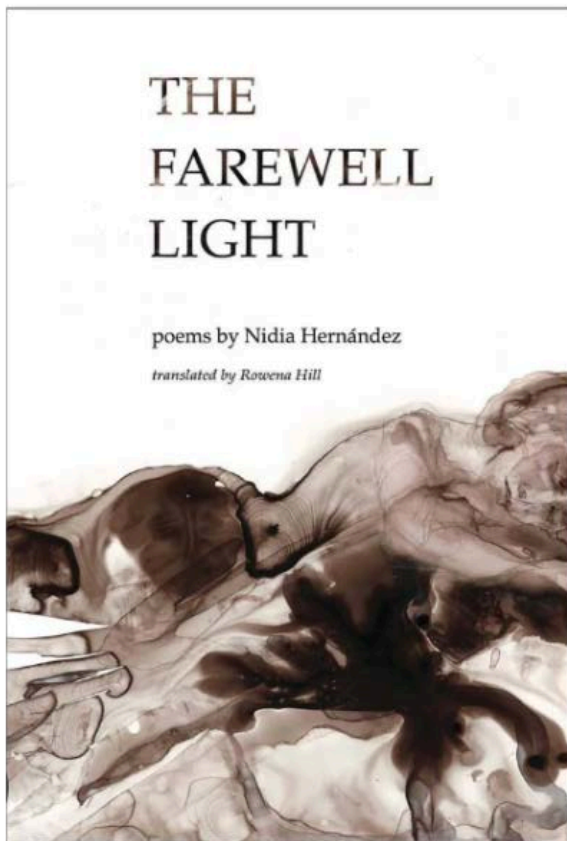
**RIGOBERTO GONZÁLEZ** is an award-winning poet, critic, and author of more than twenty books across genres. A leading voice in contemporary Latino literature, he has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, NEA, and USA Artists, and is a member of the Macondo Writers Workshop.

# POETRY

## THE FAREWELL LIGHT

By Nidia Hernández

tr. Rowena Hill



**A luminous bilingual debut on exile, memory, and the shifting light of home.**

In this bilingual debut, Venezuelan poet Nidia Hernández reflects on exile, memory, and the search for belonging. Moving between the landscapes of her homeland and the uncertainties of migration, *The Farewell Light* weaves nature, family, and language into meditations on loss and renewal. Rendered with lyrical precision by translator Rowena Hill, these poems offer a voice both intimate and expansive, illuminating the fragile beauty found in impermanence.

**NIDIA HERNÁNDEZ** is a Venezuelan poet and editor whose work engages themes of migration, memory, and identity. Now based in the United States, she continues to write across languages and borders. *The Farewell Light*, a finalist for the Eric Hoffer Award, marks her English-language debut.

# POETRY

## ROOT FRACTURES: POEMS

By Diana Khoi Nguyen



**A haunting exploration of loss, memory, and what survives in the aftermath of war.**

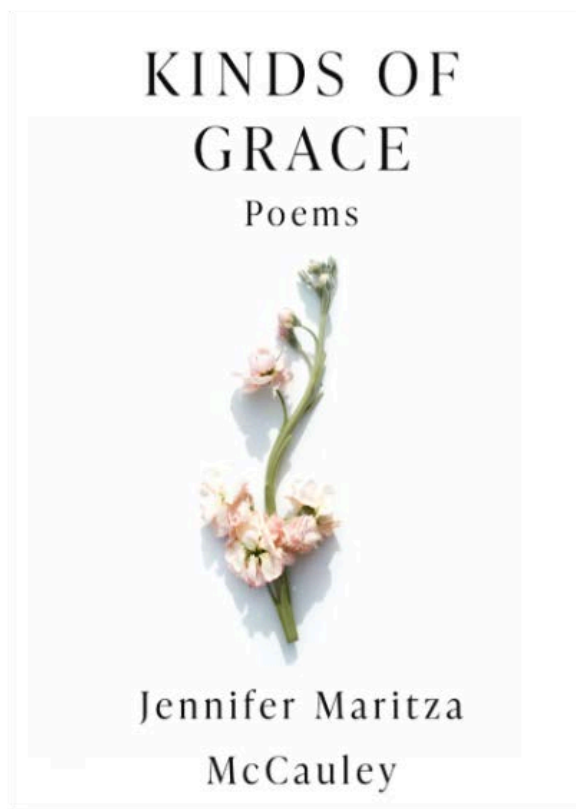
In this searing collection, Diana Khoi Nguyen confronts the ruptures of family, war, and loss: a mother displaced after the fall of Saigon, a father rebuilding life in California, a brother who erased himself from photographs and from life. Through poems of stark honesty and formal risk, *Root Fractures* navigates memory, grief, and the lingering gravity of the Vietnam War, while illuminating what endures across generations.

**DIANA KHOI NGUYEN** is a poet and multimedia artist whose debut collection, *Ghost Of*, won the Kate Tufts Discovery Award and was a finalist for the National Book Award. Her work often explores Vietnamese diasporic history, family, and grief with formal innovation and emotional depth. She teaches creative writing and continues to create across poetry and visual media.

# POETRY

## KINDS OF GRACE

By Jennifer Maritza McCauley



**A lyrical exploration of heritage, healing, and the grace we give ourselves.**

This fearless poetry collection explores Blackness, Afro-Latinidad, mental health, and the search for love, home, and self-ownership. With lyricism that moves between tenderness and power, *Kinds of Grace* confronts ancestral memory, womanhood, and healing while affirming the complexity and beauty of modern Black Latina identity.

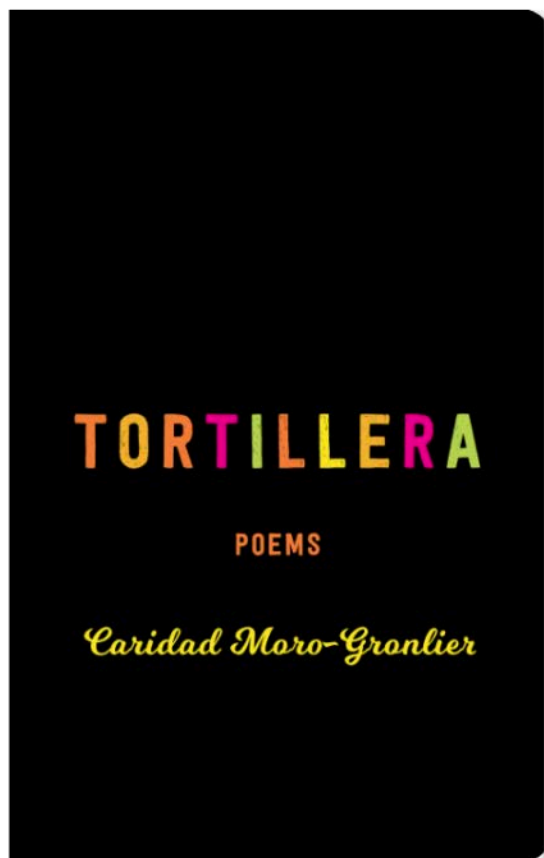
**JENNIFER MARITZA MCCAULEY** is the author of *Scar On/Scar Off*, *When Trying to Return Home*, and *Kinds of Grace*. A recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, Kimbilio, and CantoMundo, she writes across genres to illuminate Afro-Latinx experience. She is an assistant professor of creative writing at the University of Houston–Clear Lake.



# POETRY

## TORTILLERA: POEMS

By Caridad Moro-Gronlier



**A fearless poetic reclaiming of identity, queerness, and Cuban-American womanhood.**

Reclaiming one of the harshest slurs in Cuban culture, Caridad Moro-Gronlier transforms *tortillera* into a declaration of identity and pride. In this debut collection, she explores the queer Cuban-American experience through poems of candor and intensity—narratives of family, love, divorce, motherhood, desire, and rebirth. Unflinching yet tender, *Tortillera* confronts the wounds of marginalization while celebrating the audacity of living truthfully.

**CARIDAD MORO-GRONLIER** is a Cuban-American poet, editor, and educator based in Miami. Her work explores intersections of culture, queerness, and family with unvarnished honesty and lyrical force. *Tortillera*, winner of the TRP Southern Poetry Breakthrough Series: Florida, is her debut collection. She is the current Poet Laureate of Miami-Dade County.

A green leafy branch with several leaves, extending from the top left towards the top right of the page.

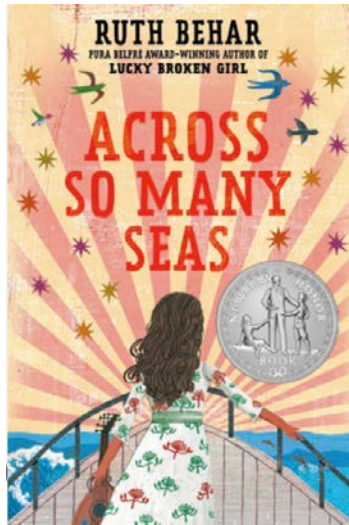
**CHILDREN**

**&**

**YOUNG ADULT**

A green leafy branch with several leaves, extending from the bottom left towards the bottom right of the page.

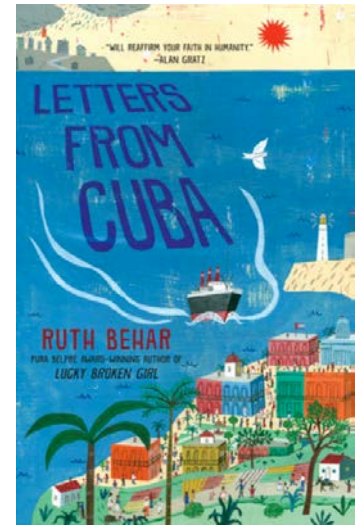
# CHILDREN & YA



Follow four girls from the same family, across five centuries of migration, from Spain to Turkey, Cuba, and the United States. Their stories show how hope and memory carry across generations.



When Estrella spends the day with her beloved Tía Fortuna as she moves to a new home, she learns about family stories, traditions, and the comfort they bring in times of change.



Based on her grandmother's life, Ruth Behar tells the story of Esther, a Jewish girl who moves from Poland to Cuba on the eve of World War II. Through letters to her sister, she shares her struggles and hopes as she makes a new home.

**RUTH BEHAR** is a Cuban-born cultural anthropologist, writer, and translator. Winner of the MacArthur "Genius" Award, she is known for her explorations of identity, diaspora, and memory across memoir, ethnography, and fiction. Her books include *An Island Called Home* and the award-winning children's novel *Lucky Broken Girl*.

# CHILDREN & YA

## THE MANGO TREE (LA MATA DE MANGO): A PICTURE BOOK

By Edel Rodriguez



**A poignant, wordless tale of migration, home, and the bonds of friendship.**

Told entirely through images, this wordless picture book follows two boys who share carefree days in a mango tree until a storm carries one away to an unfamiliar land. Inspired by his own childhood immigration story, artist Edel Rodriguez creates a moving meditation on displacement, resilience, and enduring friendship. Lyrical and visually stunning, *The Mango Tree (La mata de mango)* invites readers of all ages to experience the power of storytelling without words.

**EDEL RODRIGUEZ** is an internationally acclaimed Cuban American artist and illustrator. His work has appeared on the covers of *TIME*, *The New Yorker*, and numerous publications worldwide. Known for his bold visual storytelling, Rodriguez often draws from themes of exile, identity, and belonging.



# CHILDREN & YA

## BROWNSTONE: A GRAPHIC NOVEL

By Samuel Teer & Mar Julia



**A heartfelt graphic novel about identity, heritage, and the power of found family.**

When Almudena spends the summer with the Guatemalan father she's never met, she's thrust into a neighborhood alive with culture, language, and expectations she struggles to navigate. Living in his crumbling brownstone, she must bridge gaps of identity, belonging, and heritage while forging a relationship with her father and the community around her. With vibrant artwork by Mar Julia, *Brownstone* is a coming-of-age story about family, culture, and finding where you fit.

**SAMUEL TEER** is a writer whose work explores themes of identity, heritage, and community across comics and prose.

**MAR JULIA** is an illustrator and debut graphic novelist whose expressive art brings *Brownstone's* characters and setting vividly to life.