

Latino Life is a list of recent books concerning the Latino experience, and is published as part of the Boston Public Library's observance of Hispanic Heritage Month each year.

Compiled by
Boston Public Library staff:

- Denise de Boer
Reader & Information Services,
Central Library in Copley Square
- Paul Edwards
Grove Hall Branch Library
- Francie Francis
South Boston Branch Library
- Amy Manson
Chairperson, Connolly Branch Library
- Cordelia Sullivan
Lower Mills Branch Library

Thomas M. Menino
Mayor, City of Boston



Amy E. Ryan
President, Boston Public Library

FICTION

Adios, Happy Homeland

by Ana Menéndez
Cubans long to emigrate via train, parachute, or boat in these 27 interlinked stories, some featuring Elián González.

The Book of Want

by Daniel A. Olivás
Fifty-something Julieta's dealing with an empty nest, her husband Manny has discovered he fathered a child with an ex, and sister Conchita is in love with her levitating neighbor.

+ **Conquistadora: A Novel**

by Esmeralda Santiago
Determined Ana perseveres through hurricanes, cholera, and slave revolts in her struggle to maintain a sugar plantation in mid-1800s Puerto Rico.

Cuba: My Revolution

by Inverna Lockpez
This graphic novel follows Sonya as she transforms from an idealist revolutionary to a dissident artist who makes an agonizing decision.

+ **Destiny and Desire: A Novel**

by Carlos Fuentes
A severed head washes ashore near Acapulco. Josué Nadal, whose head it once was, recounts how he came to lose it.

Dogfight, a Love Story: A Novel

by Matt Burgess
Alfredo, a drug dealer in Queens, has a lot to answer for when Tariq, his brother and former partner-in-crime, gets out of prison.

Every Bitter Thing

by Leighton Gage
Investigating the brutal murder of a foreign minister's gay son, Chief Inspector Silva races to find a serial killer targeting passengers of a recent airline flight.

The Lady Matador's Hotel: A Novel

by Cristina García
At a luxury hotel in a Central American city, the lives of six individuals converge, resulting in unexpected and explosive conflict.

Listen to the Dead: A Cape Islands Mystery

by Randall S. Peffer
When a woman's remains are uncovered, Detective Yemanjá Colón and harbormaster Corby Church investigate. Was she the victim of the New Bedford serial killer?

Miss Scarlet's School of Patternless Sewing: A Crafty Chica Novel

by Kathy Cano-Murillo
Scarlet sees her dream of being a fashion designer within reach and, to raise tuition money, creates her own class, attracting a surprising mix of students.

+ **Needle in a Haystack**

by Ernesto Mallo
Buenos Aires, 1979: While investigating two Junta murders, Superintendent Lascano is surprised to find a third body at the scene, that of a Holocaust survivor.

The Ringer: A Novel

by Jenny Shank
After a police officer mistakenly kills an innocent Mexican-American man, their families' lives intersect again when their sons meet on the baseball diamond.

Say Her Name

by Francisco Goldman
This fictionalized account tells of the author's real-life tragedy, the accidental death of his young wife, and its aftermath.

The Secret History of Costaguana

by Juan Gabriel Vásquez
A Colombian writer claims Joseph Conrad stole the idea for his book *Nostromo* from him. Now it's his turn to tell what really happened.

+ **The Shadow of What We Were**

by Luis Sepúlveda
Three former Chilean revolutionaries meet up after 40 years to complete one final mission and reminisce about their exploits.

* **Sisters, Strangers, and Starting Over: A Quinceañera Club Novel**

by Belinda Acosta
While planning a quinceañera for her orphaned niece, Beatriz learns the disturbing truth behind her estranged sister's death.

Stay with Me: A Novel

by Sandra Rodríguez Barrón
Five toddlers were found alone on a boat off the coast of Puerto Rico after a hurricane. The mystery of who they are haunts them into adulthood.

Take the Lead

by Johnny Diaz
When his father needs help managing his Parkinson's disease, Gabriel finds himself falling for Adam, his father's physical therapy dance class instructor.

The Three Kings

by Alisa Valdes-Rodriguez
It's Christmastime, and recently divorced Christy gets set up to date the Reyes cousins, who just happen to be named Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar.

Vida

by Patricia Engel
Nine linked stories about Sabina, a Colombian-American, as she grows up, has relationships, and tries to make sense of her world.

What You See in the Dark: A Novel

by Manuel Muñoz
Alfred Hitchcock arrives in Bakersfield, California, to film *Psycho* just as the town is dealing with the murder of Mexican singer Teresa Garza.

When Tito Loved Clara: A Novel

by Jon Michaud
Fifteen years later, Tito is still living in Washington Heights and in love with Clara, his high school sweetheart, even though she married Thomas and moved to the suburbs.

A Young Man's Guide to Late Capitalism

by Peter Mountford
While managing hedge funds amidst political intrigue in Bolivia, Gabriel begins a relationship with President Evo Morales' press secretary, Lenka.



facebook.com/bostonpubliclibrary



BPLBoston



* appropriate for Teens
+ available in Spanish



700 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116
www.bpl.org

LATINO LIFE

Booklist for Adults • 2011



BIOGRAPHY

Cuban Star: How One Negro-League Owner Changed the Face of Baseball
by [Adrian Burgos, Jr.](#)

Overcoming tough times in Cuba and Harlem, Alex Pompez became a transformative figure in professional baseball, guiding the careers of many Latino ballplayers.
GV865.P66B87 2011

* **Fallin’ Up: My Story**

+ by [Taboo with Steve Dennis](#)
Jaime Gomez, aka Taboo, a member of the Black Eyed Peas, tells his story of overcoming the odds and living the life of his dreams.
ML420.T122A3 2011x

+ **Learning to Die in Miami: Confessions of a Refugee Boy**
by [Carlos M. N. Eire](#)

In his follow-up to *Waiting for Snow in Havana*, the parentless immigrant boy experiences loss, struggle, and a triumph of spirit growing up in America.
E184.C97E36 2010

+ **Me**

by [Ricky Martin](#)
Ricky Martin shares the joys and challenges of his life and career, and tells how coming to terms with his sexuality has made his life complete.
ML420.M3323A3 2010

The Next Big Story: My Journey Through the Land of Possibilities
by [Soledad O’Brien](#)
with [Rose Marie Arce](#)

The renowned CNN correspondent, a child of Cuban and Australian parents, shares her experiences and provides a unique perspective on today’s global events.
PN4874.O355A3 2010

Sonia Sotomayor: The True American Dream
by [Antonia Felix](#)

The rise of Sotomayor, the daughter of Puerto Rican immigrants, from humble beginnings in the South Bronx to Supreme Court Justice is the quintessential American success story.
KF8745.S67F45 2010

The Sugar King of Havana: The Rise and Fall of Julio Lobo, Cuba’s Last Tycoon
by [John Paul Rathbone](#)

Known for hobnobbing with Hollywood stars and dangerous gangland connections, Lobo lived the high life in Cuba until Castro seized power.
HD9114.C89L637 2010

Thoughts Without Cigarettes: A Memoir

by [Oscar Hijuelos](#)
The award-winning author spins a poignant narrative about his life and family growing up in Cuba and then later in New York City.
PS3558.I376Z46 2011

Unfinished Revolution: Daniel Ortega and Nicaragua’s Struggle for Liberation
by [Kenneth Earl Morris](#)

The return to power of the complex and controversial Ortega reveals the diverse nature of Latin America’s politics.
F1528.22.O78M67 2010

EXPRESSIONS

+ **Authentic Cuban Cuisine**
by [Martha Abreu Cortina](#)

Classic Cuban cookery, a unique blend of Spanish, African, and Caribbean flavors, is shown in color photographs with straightforward instructions in Spanish and English.
TX716.C8C67 2011

+ **Eva’s Kitchen: Cooking with Love for Family & Friends**

by [Eva Longoria](#), with [Marah Stets](#)
The TV star seasons her recipes with family stories and traditions drawn from her Tex-Mex roots, and also includes special dishes from her international travels.
TX714.P3745 2011

+ **The FSG Book of Twentieth-Century Latin American Poetry: An Anthology**

edited by [Ilan Stavans](#)
Famous and lesser-known poets from 13 countries contribute to this ambitious anthology presented in both Spanish and English.
PQ7087.E5F78 2011

The Havana Habit

by [Gustavo Pérez Firmat](#)
Vintage posters, old Hollywood movies, and *I Love Lucy* represent an ongoing romantic perception of Cuba in American culture that bears little resemblance to reality.
E169.12.P483 2010

Havana Revisited: An Architectural Heritage

by [Cathryn Griffith](#)
This engrossing overview juxtaposes vintage postcard images with their current-day photographic equivalents to reveal an ever-changing yet well-preserved city.
NA804.H3G75 2010

Latin Grilling: Recipes to Share, From Patagonian Asado to Yucatecan Barbecue and More

by [Lourdes Castro](#)
Ninety authentic recipes written for the novice cook explore the diverse cuisines of the many countries that comprise Latin America.
TX840.B3C45 2011

Madre: Perilous Journeys with a Spanish Noun

by [Liza Bakewell](#)
The intricate meanings and dimensions of the word “madre” are the focus of this fascinating linguistic excursion through the world of Mexican Spanish.
PC4201.B35 2011

My Sweet Mexico: Recipes for Authentic Breads, Pastries, Candies, Beverages, and Frozen Treats

by [Fany Gerson](#)
Recipes by the celebrated pastry chef cover a universe of confections from her native land in this generously illustrated collection.
TX773.G3823 2010

+ **Puerto Rico Remembered: Photographs from the Collection of Tom Lehman / Recuerdos de Puerto Rico: Fotografías de la Colección de Tom Lehman**

by [Fernando Picó](#)
Beautiful color photographs of life in the 1940s and 50s provide an important visual history of a simpler time, before tourism and modernization overtook the island.
F1965.3.P53 2011

Truly Mexican

by [Roberto Santibañez](#) with [J.J. Goode](#) and [Shelley Wiseman](#)
The Mexican-born Le Cordon Bleu-trained chef focuses on sauces, from salsas to adobos to guacamoles, in 140 recipes delivered in a user-friendly style.
TX716.M4S268 2011

HISTORY & CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

+ **33 Men: Inside the Miraculous Survival and Dramatic Rescue of the Chilean Miners**

by [Jonathan Franklin](#)
After a mine collapse, 33 men waited 69 days in a 540 square-foot chamber while workers dug through solid rock to rescue them.
TN311.F73 2011

Black in Latin America

by [Henry Louis Gates, Jr.](#)
The history of the African presence in Brazil, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico, and Peru is examined in this companion to the PBS documentary.
F1419.N4 G38 2011

Brazil on the Rise: The Story of a Country Transformed

by [Larry Rohter](#)
Rohter documents how the economically depressed dictatorship evolved into a democracy with the world’s eighth largest economy.
F2538.3.R64 2010

+ **The Buena Salud Guide for a Healthy Heart**

RC672.D45 2011

+ **The Buena Salud Guide to Diabetes and Your Life**

by [Jane L. Delgado](#)

These guides add Latino-specific information to current knowledge about keeping your heart healthy and diabetes prevention and control.

Down and Delirious in Mexico City: The Aztec Metropolis in the Twenty-First Century

by [Daniel Hernández](#)
Hernández immersed himself in youth culture in Mexico City to explore his roots. These essays reveal a thriving and varied underground scene.
F1386.2.H47 2011

The Greatest Game Ever Pitched: Juan Marichal, Warren Spahn, and the Pitching Duel of the Century

by [Jim Kaplan](#)
On July 2, 1963, the Braves met the Giants, led by Spahn and Marichal, respectively. For 16 innings, they sparred. A single run ended the game.
GV865.A1K354 2011

+ **The Last Narco: Inside the Hunt for El Chapo, the World’s Most-Wanted Drug Lord**

by [Malcolm Beith](#)
Newsweek journalist Beith chronicles the search for the old-school drug lord and *Forbes Magazine*-listed billionaire, and the history of the drug trade in Mexico.
HV5805.C49B45 2010

+ **Mañana Forever? Mexico and the Mexicans**

by [Jorge G. Castañeda](#)
Castañeda explores the origins and consequences of Mexicans’ ambivalent relationship with foreigners, their aversion to modernization, and the future of a country of many paradoxes.
F1210.C425 2011

Red Heat: Conspiracy, Murder, and the Cold War in the Caribbean

by [Alex Von Tunzelmann](#)
The United States felt it could control Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti during the Cold War. Their leaders, Castro, Trujillo, and Duvalier, did not agree.
F2183.V66 2011

Tracking the Chupacabra: The Vampire Beast in Fact, Fiction, and Folklore

by [Benjamin Radford](#)
Explores the myth, legend, and conspiracy surrounding the chupacabra, a vampire-like livestock killer menacing Latin America.
QL89.2.C57R34 2011