Latinx Authors and Novels that Represent Them

*Or Alternatively, Books with Latinx Characters/Representation*

For more information about each book and the Hispanic and Latinx representation, follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) or [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com).

1. **How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents** + **In the Time of the Butterflies** by Julia Alvarez
   - **Form:** Reverse chronological Coming of Age Novel + Historical Novel
   - **Representation:** Dominican + Dictatorship/Revolution (Activism)
   - **Latinx Connection:** Deals with consequences of political activism against a dictatorship as well as coming to America and facing Acculturation.

2. **Queer Brown Voices** by Uriel Quesada (Editor)
   - **Form:** Personal Narrative/History
   - **Representation:** Latinx + LGBTQ + Activism
   - **Latinx Connection:** “These narratives are powerful expressions of the experiences of lesbians, gay men, and trans activists from a variety of Latina/o communities. This history exists nowhere else.”

3. **When I was Puerto Rican** by Esmeralda Santiago
   - **Form:** Non-Fiction/Memoir
   - **Representation:** Puerto Rican + Feminism
   - **Latinx Connection:** Immigration to America + Assimilation to American Culture

4. **A Cup of Water Under the Bed** by Daisy Hernandez
   - **Form:** Nonfiction/Memoir
   - **Representation:** Cuban-Colombian + LGBTQ
   - **Latinx Connection:** Deals with a woman coming to terms with her sexual identity and Latinx experiences

5. **Drown** + **The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao** by Junot Diaz
   - **Form:** Short Story Collection + Fiction Novel
○ Representation: Dominican American + Masculinity + Magical Realism

○ Latinx Connection: Both books deal with the tribulations of immigrants when chasing the “American dream”

6. **My Mother was a Freedom Fighter** by Aja Monet

   ○ Form: Poetry
   ○ Representation: Cuban-Jamaican + Activism + Feminism
   ○ Latinx Connection: “rethinking what a life cycle truly means in globalizing world” as well as issues with imprisonment and disruption of stereotypes (especially to established feminism and identity).

7. **The House on Mango Street** by Sandra Cisneros

   ○ Form: Fiction/Coming of Age Novel
   ○ Representation: Mexican American + Puerto Rican
   ○ Latinx Connection: Deals w/ the “imprisonment” of impoverished Latinx neighborhoods and how to move beyond without leaving heritage (& family) behind.

8. **Birds of Paradise: How I Became Latina** by Raquel Cepeda (!)

   ○ Form: Non-Fiction/Memoir
   ○ Representation: Dominican American
   ○ Latinx Connection: Multi-Ethnic Experience + what it means to be Latinx in America

9. **Juliet Takes a Breath** by Gabby Riveria (!)

   ○ Form: YA (Young Adult) Fiction
   ○ Representation: Puerto Rican + LGBTQ + Feminism
   ○ Latinx Connection: Deals w/ the lack of Women of Color in Debate/Media (the issue of “White Feminism”)

10. **The Poet X** by Elizabeth Acevedo

    ○ Form: Poetry
    ○ Representation: Afro-Dominican + Activism
    ○ Latinx Connection: Deals w/ growing up Latinx and reaching beyond stereotypical norms of ethnicity.
11. **In the Country We Love: My Family Divided** by Diane Guerrero (!)
   - Form: Non-Fiction/Memoir
   - Representation: Colombian American
   - Latinx Connection: Dealing w/ Undocumentation and Deportation of Immediate family

12. **Peluda** by Melissa Lozada-Oliva (!)
   - Form: Poetry
   - Representation: Latinx + Body Positivity
   - Latinx Connection: Deals w/ “what it means to be a woman and American when you are not white and smooth-skinned”

13. **The Education of Margot Sanchez** by Lilliam Rivera
   - Form: Fiction/Coming of Age Novel
   - Representation: Puerto Rican + Activism
   - Latinx Connection: Deals with what it means to grow up in a Latinx community in America as opposed to more entitled neighborhoods.

14. **Gabi, A Girl in Pieces** by Isabel Quintero (!)
   - Form: Hybrid Novel (Written in Diary Form)
   - Representation: Mexican American + LGBTQ + Body Diversity
   - Latinx Connection: The Forging of Identity (Ethnicity, Sexuality, etc) within Young individuals in America

15. **Yes! We Are Latinos** by Alma Flor Ada
    - Form: Children’s Poetry
    - Representation: Many Latinx countries (Venezuelan, Peruvian, Panamanian etc.)
    - Latinx Connection: displays multiple ethnic backgrounds & the voices of diverse Latinx youths.

16. **I am not your Perfect Mexican Daughter** by Erika L. Sanchez (!)
    - Form: YA (Young Adult) Fiction
    - Representation: Mexican American
    - Latinx Connection: Separation of “norms” among one's own race/Latinx expectations.
17. **Unaccompanied** by Javier Zamora
   - Form: Poetry
   - Representation: El Salvadoran
   - Latinx Connection: Deals with the struggle of crossing the border/politics of immigration into the US

18. **Borderlands/La Frontera** by Gloria E. Anzaldúa (!)
   - Form: Semi-Autobiographical Hybrid (Prose and Poetry)
   - Representation: Chicano/a Culture + LGBTQ + Feminism
   - Latinx Connection: “the condition of Chicanos in Anglo culture, women in Hispanic culture, and lesbians in the straight world.”

19. **Book of Unknown Americans** by Cristina Henríquez (!)
   - Form: YA (Young Adult) Fiction
   - Representation: Panamanian + Mexican American (Supporting characters: Venezuela, Guatemala, Puerto Rico) + Physical Disability
   - Latinx Connection: deals with assimilation and the language, racial, and cultural obstacles” that come with migration to a new country in which even the language is foreign.

20. **Wild Beauty** by Anna-Marie McLemore (!)
    - Form: YA (Young Adult) Fiction
    - Representation: Mexican American + Feminism + LGBTQ
    - Latinx Connection: Strong matriarchal Latinx characters/influences in magical realism realm