

# LATINO BOOK CLUB

April 2008

Volume 2, Issue 4

## Next Meeting

May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008  
Saturday, 3-4:30 PM  
Francesco's Cafe,  
839 S. Kerr Ave.

## Book Club Members

Haida Andrade  
Isis Doris Arieta  
Julie Bordo  
Amrita Das  
Kathy Fox  
Jacqueline Galbraith  
Alicia Greenberg  
Rachel Hatfield  
Irene Henderson  
Carol Hernandez  
Jennifer Horan  
Evelyn Hrabankova  
Lizzy Irvin  
Marianella Jara  
Annetta Jenkins  
Kathleen Jewell  
Olga Joachim  
Gwen Jones  
Pat Lerch  
Marcio Moreno  
Joanne Mount  
N. Eleni Pappamihel  
Fermin Recarte  
Nicole Strawn  
Christine Vayo  
Kate Williamson  
Dekia Worthy

## Book List

### April 2008

Ana Menendez, *In Cuba I was a German Shepherd*

### March 2008

Rudolfo Anaya, *Bless me, Ultima*.

## Membership Information

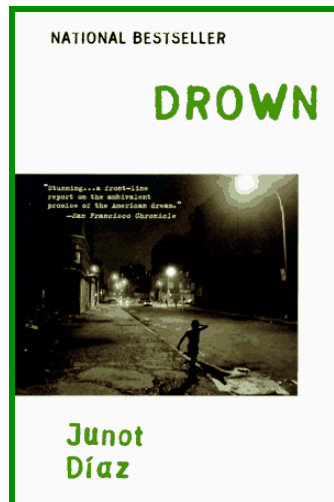
Contact Amrita Das  
[dasa@uncv.edu](mailto:dasa@uncv.edu)  
910-962-2430

## Books available at:

Pomegranate Books  
4418 Park Ave.  
910-452-1107  
15% discount for club members.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

MAY 2008



*Drown* (1996) is Junot Díaz' debut collection of ten semi-autobiographical short stories. The tales are based in the 70s and 80s Dominican Republic and New Jersey. *Drown* like *Down These Mean Streets* speaks of young men growing around poverty, racial and cultural conflicts. This collection of stories also gives a glimpse into the Dominican life on the island. Díaz has compared this simultaneity of experiences, as a work of science fiction, where life in the Dominican Republic and the United States are two different realms, "jumping between two entire existences, two entire temporal moments, is what it feels like." The stories are interconnected like *In Cuba I Was a German Shepherd*, by its themes and the repetition of characters.

## Author

Junot Díaz, born in the Dominican Republic migrated at the young age of 6 with his family, to a poor working class neighborhood of New Jersey. His first name is Haitian and is pronounced as the Alaskan capital, Juno. He is a Creative Writing professor at MIT. Díaz has other short stories published in various magazines like the New Yorker and The Paris Review. *The Brief, Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* (2007) is Junot Díaz' much awaited second work and first novel.



It was recently awarded the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. Read praise for Díaz' new novel on his website [www.junotdiaz.com](http://www.junotdiaz.com). He is now working on a science fiction.

## Other News

Our Book Club member Marcio Moreno's short story "¿Y yo qué hice?" (And what did I do?) will be published in the upcoming Spring 2008 edition of *El Cid*, the national journal of Tau Iota, chapter of the Spanish Honor Society Sigma Delta Pi.

## Book Club Blog

<http://latinobookclub.blogspot.com>