

LATINO BOOK CLUB

August 2009

Volume 3, Issue 8

Next Meeting

September 26th, 2009
Saturday, 3-4:30 PM
Pomegranate Books
4418 Park Ave.

Book Club Members

Haida Andrade
Isis Doris Arieta
Julie Bordo
Mary Bulluck
Amrita Das
Kathy Fox
Jacqueline Galbraith
Alicia Greenberg
Rachel Hatfield
Irene Henderson
Carol Hernandez
Jennifer Horan
Evelyn Hrabankova
Kathy Humphrey
Lizzy Irvin
Marianella Jara
Kathleen Jewell
Olga Joachim
Gwen Jones
Pat Lerch
Lauren Moore
Marcio Moreno
Joanne Mount
Cathy Murphy
N. Eleni Pappamihiel
Nicole Strawn
Donna Treolo
Christine Vayo
Kate Williamson
Dekia Worthy

Book List

August 2009

Cristina Henríquez, *The World in Half*

July 2009

Rolando Hinojosa, *Ask a Policeman: A Rafe Buenrostro Mystery*.

June 2009

Lorraine López, *The Gifted Gabaldón Sisters*.

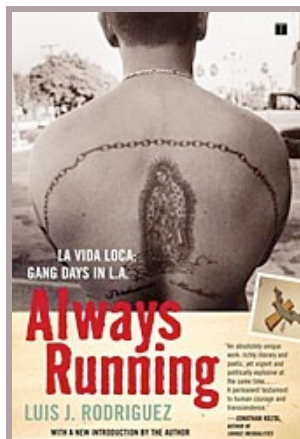
Membership Information

Contact Amrita Das
dasa@uncw.edu
910-962-2430

Books available at:

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

BOOK OF THE MONTH SEPTEMBER 2009



Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in L.A. (1993) is the well-known memoir of Luis J. Rodríguez. It recounts the days of the author as a gang member in East L.A. It was written as a cautionary tale for his young son and many teachers have used it for the same purpose. The memoir looks back at the decades of 60s and 70s, when the author was involved with gangs and violence. He was only eleven when he joined a gang. He spent time in jail as well. His memoir depicts the poverty and the surroundings that make it so hard for young boys to stay away from these gangs. Like Piri Thomas, author of *Down These Mean Streets*, Rodríguez changed his ways and helps young men stay away from gangs, a reality which continues to exist and lure kids everyday. *Always Running* has been

one of the 100 most censored books in the United States.

Author

Luis Javier Rodríguez was born in the border town of El Paso in 1954. His family immigrated to L.A. Growing up as a son of Mexican immigrants he was harassed by Anglo children and the police. He joined the gang life to find a sense of empowerment. After doing time in jail, he finished high school and held several blue-collar jobs. In 1980 he became a professional writer and a journalist. Now he is



based out of Chicago and works with various community based projects. He continues to write. Some of his books for children are *America is Her Name* and *It Doesn't Have to be This Way: A Barrio Story*. To read more about him go to:

<http://www.luisjrodriguez.com>

Book Club Blog

<http://latinobookclub.blogspot.com>