

LATINO BOOK CLUB

February 2010

Volume 4, Issue 2

Next Meeting

February 27th, 2010
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
Pat Lerch
Lauren Moore
Marcio Moreno
Joanne Mount
Cathy Murphy
N. Eleni Pappamihel
Edelmira Segovia
Nicole Strawn
Donna Treolo
Christine Vayo
Kate Williamson
Dekia Worthy

Book List

January 2010

Sandra Cisneros,
Caramelo

October 2009

Xavier Garza, *Creepy
Creatures and Other
Cucuys*.

September 2009

Luis Rodriguez, *Always
Running*.

Membership Information

Contact Amrita Das
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910-962-2430

Books available at:

Pomegranate Books
4418 Park Ave.
910-452-1107

15% discount for club
members.

BOOK OF THE MONTH FEBRUARY 2010

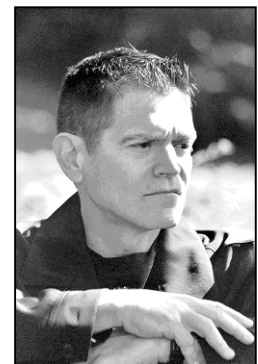


Raining Backwards (1988) is Roberto G. Fernández's first novel in English. It is a satirical portrayal of the Cuban exile community and the narrow minded Americans in Miami. Even though a novel, it can be read as vignettes about different characters that form part of a larger whole. It is not a traditional narrative, and does not follow a linear plot line. If you are used to a more traditional form of story telling the style of this novel may come as a challenge. The author deliberately uses popular forms like television broadcast, and newspaper clippings, just to name a few to interlace the tale, bringing alive the surroundings of his characters. The author consciously plays with the English language as used by the Cubans, bringing out the absurd yet the cultural difficulties. The novel's humor can be dark at times and outright funny in the ways the Cuban try to maintain their culture, but deep beneath is

captured the sadness and pain of the exiles and their longing for home.

Author

Roberto G. Fernández was born in Sagua, Cuba in 1951. His family exiled to Miami after the Cuban Revolution in 1961. He grew up in Miami and went on to receive a doctorate degree in Hispanic Literature from Florida State University, where he is now a professor of Caribbean and U.S. Latino literature. He started his literary career in the 70ies writing short stories in Spanish with *Cuentos sin rumbo* (1975) and *Jardín de la luna* (1976), and novels *La vida es un special* (1981) and *La montaña rusa* (1985). *Raining Backwards* was his first English language novel. It was followed by *Holy Radishes!* (1995). He has since then gone back to writing in Spanish. His *En la ocho y la doce* (2001) collects many of his older characters in this new novel. He has also been published in Cuba, an achievement for an exile in the United States. He is known as the Cuban William Burroughs. He lives in Tallahassee, Florida.



Book Club Blog

latinobookclub.blogspot.com