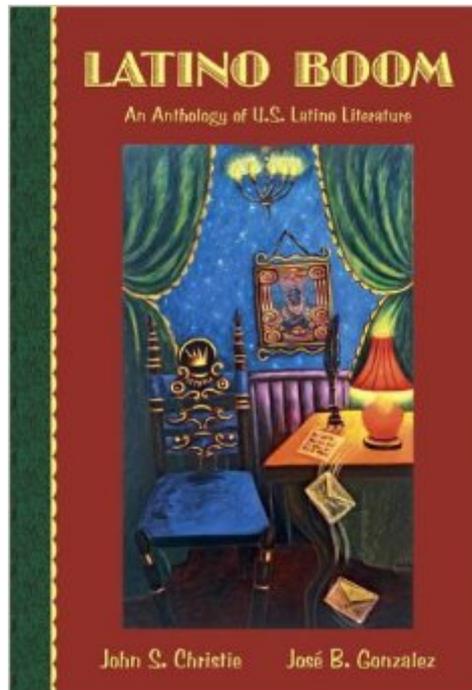


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# Latino Boom: An Anthology Of U.S. Latino Literature



## Synopsis

Latino Boom: An Anthology of U.S. Latino Literature combines an engaging and diverse selection of Latino/a authors with tools for students to read, think, and write critically about these works. The first anthology of Latino literature to offer teachers and students a wide array of scholarly and pedagogical resources for class discussion and analysis, this thematically organized collection of fiction, poetry, drama, and essay presents a rich spectrum of literary styles. Providing complete works of Latino/a literature vs excerpts written originally in English, the anthology juxtaposes well-known writers with emerging voices from diverse Latino communities, inviting students to examine Latino literature through a variety of lenses.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I used this anthology one time and it will be the last. I just could not justify the price (\$62) to my students. Unfortunately, the quality of the book itself was not good; pages came off easily, and there were several errors throughout the book. I also came to regret this book's narrow historical scope; it's important to give students a broader spectrum of the literature's development, especially since most don't even realize Latinas/os have been producing literature in America since the 16th century. Moreover, there are much more exciting, significant Latino writers in the contemporary scene completely neglected by this anthology.

My brother took a class in which he was assigned this book, and he loved it so much, he got me a

copy for my birthday. Let me just say that I normally can be too critical and rarely give out great reviews, but this is an incredible book by some of the best Latino authors. The stories are captivating and go beyond stereotypes. I'd recommend this book to anybody.

\*Latino Boom\* is the best anthology of contemporary Latino literature available for use in secondary or post-secondary classroom. The early chapters presenting an overview of Latino literature helped my students immensely, and they consider the maps included in chapter 3 to be invaluable--particularly the Turnabout Map. By way of critique: I would suggest that readers contact the publisher to request the next edition of the anthology include CDs for classroom/personal use (as does the \*Norton Anthology of African American Literature\* edited by Gates and McKay). Christie and Gonzalez, the \*Latino Boom\* editors, remind their readers of the inherent orality and indispensable connections to music of many of the texts included, yet they fail to present the writers voicing their own poems and stories, nor do the editors include the rich sounds of musical traditions including corridos, plena, son, etc that would help the print text come alive. Another interdisciplinary connection that could be presented on CD would be visual works of art by Chicanos/as, Puerto Ricans, Cuban-Americans...this might include images of visual or decorative arts, textiles, or graffiti. Lastly, I would ask the editors to supplement the anthology with 2 texts: "Corky" Gonzales' "Yo Soy Joaquin" and Gloria Anzaldua's "How to Tame a Wild Tongue" (in addition to the Anzaldua piece included; not in place of...). Overall, this anthology is well-worth the money.

I just took a literature course where the instructor assigned this book. Awesome, all around. I knew nothing about Latinos before this course, but now I feel like I know so much more about them and my friends.

It's got a lovely cover, doesn't it? The anthology renders a complex period bravely accessible, while steering admirably clear in its conception of such things as over-simplification and easy polemic. The approach is deeply pedagogical and literary, with careful outlines of various schools of reception, and detailed engagement with such questions as revolve today around narrative and autobiography, just to name a few. There is throughout a very native, deeply polyglot sense for this literature's often hybrid, heterogeneous origins and currents. As such, it is also a collection with a very real social conscience, and obviously unafraid to grapple with issues of cultural and historical context (there are wonderful, detailed maps and admirably unflinching, politically objective timelines detailing various U.S. invasions throughout the years, and so on). Needless to say, however, the

literary is nowhere sacrificed purely to questions of mere politics. All in all, a highly original, and admirably-contextualized compilation. Clearly an indispensable volume not only for teachers, but for anyone concerned for the future of literature in the 21st century. There will no doubt be much more to come (provided, of course, we are to survive to some day read about it, and in places other than the NRTBR).

i think this anthology is great. i used it in class and was very insightful. my only problem is that the thematic organization of material makes it hard to navigate

good book has all sorts of short stories and poetry. it has some great writers and good stories and poems.

This book is a wonderful compilation of short stories and poems from the Latino culture. Very diverse in content. Read, Read, Read. Turn off the television and Read!

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