



Berkeley Reads Together: Community Stories En Berkeley Leemos Juntos: Cuentos Comunitarios

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

The House on Mango Street is a collection of short stories about daily life in a neighborhood, in a home, in a family. Mango Street isn't in Berkeley, but you are sure to recognize events and characters described by Esperanza Cordero, the stories' narrator. If you haven't read this book before, or not for a very long time, this fall is the moment to pick it up. Everyone in Berkeley is invited to read *The House on Mango Street* and discuss it with other readers.

The House on Mango Street, es una colección de cuentos cortos de la vida en un barrio, en una casa de una familia que vive en La Calle Mango. La Calle Mango no se localiza en Berkeley, pero por seguro encontrará parecido en eventos o personajes descritos por Esperanza Cordero, narradora del cuento. Si aún no ha leído este libro, o lo leyó hace tiempo, este otoño es el momento para obtenerlo. Invitamos a todo mundo en Berkeley a que lea *The House on Mango Street*, y que lo discutan con otros lectores.

About Sandra Cisneros

Sandra Cisneros began writing at the age of ten. She grew up in Chicago, the only daughter of her parents' seven children. Her father was from Mexico, and the family lived in a Puerto Rican neighborhood. That neighborhood—as well as Ms. Cisneros' immediate family—inspired many of the scenes in *The House on Mango Street*, which was first published in 1983. It was during her studies at the Iowa Writers' Workshop that Ms. Cisneros developed a mature sense of herself as poet, Chicana, and short story writer. She has won many awards for her writing, including the 1985 Before Columbus American Book Award for *The House on Mango Street*.

Quién es Sandra Cisneros

Sandra Cisneros empezó a escribir a la edad de 10 años. Creció en Chicago, única mujer entre seis hermanos. Aunque su padre era oriundo de México, su familia vivía en un barrio Portorriqueño. Ese barrio, al igual que la familia inmediata de la Srita. Cisneros inspiraron muchas de las escenas de *The House on Mango Street*, la cual fué publicada en 1983. Fué durante sus estudios en Iowa en el Taller de Escritura que la Srita. Cisneros descubrió su madurés como poeta, Chicana, y escritora de cuentos cortos. Ella ha ganado muchos reconocimientos, incluyendo en 1985 América antes de Cristóbal Colón y Premio al Libro *The House on Mango Street*.

If you enjoyed reading *The House on Mango Street*, you might also like these community story collections.
Check Berkeley Public Library's online catalog for current availability.

The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven, by Sherman Alexie
Set on and off the Reservation, the stories in this collection inspired the movie *Smoke Signals*.

Rattlebone, by Maxine Clair
The small African American town featured in these stories changes dramatically during the middle of the 20th century.

Dropsie Avenue: The Neighborhood, by Will Eisner
A densely peopled Jewish neighborhood is depicted in word and image in these semi-autobiographical stories.

145th Street, by Walter Dean Myers
Neighborhood teens view the world, its social problems and promises, through the activities on their street.

Miguel Street, by V. S. Naipaul
Characters in an impoverished Trinidadian town are featured by turns in this early collection by a Nobel Laureate.

An Island Like You, by Judith Ortiz Cofer
In a Puerto Rican barrio, children live their double identity as island natives and American citizens.

Cannery Row, by John Steinbeck
The laborers in Monterey's early 20th century fishing industry inspired these stories by California's own Nobel laureate.