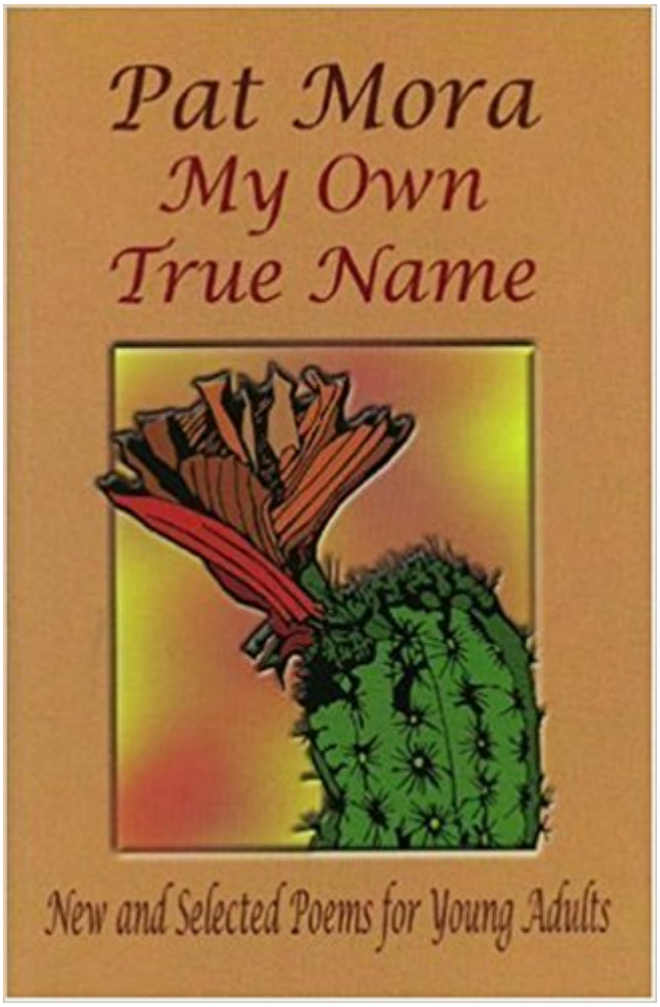
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My Own True Name: New And Selected Poems For Young Adults (Pinata Books For Young Adults)



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Synopsis

More than sixty poems, some with Spanish translations, include such titles as The Young Sor Juana, Graduation Morning, Border Town 1938, Legal Alien, Abuelita Magic, and In the Blood.

Book Information

Series: Pinata Books for Young Adults

Paperback: 81 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #414,402 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #61 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Poetry #466 inÃ Â Books > Literature & Fiction > United States > Hispanic #2002 inÃ Â Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > United States

Customer Reviews

Grade 9 Up-Mora has selected poems from her adult collections and added some new ones. She speaks of her own experience as a Latina in the Southwest, and of the experiences of those people whose lives have touched her own. Using the metaphor of a cactus, she has grouped the selections into three sections: "Blooms" (of loves and joys), "Thorns" (of hardships and sorrows), and "Roots" (of family, wisdom, home, and strength). She has chosen poems with themes that are accessible to, yet challenging for teens, a few of which appear in both English and Spanish. Occasional footnotes explain historical references or Spanish phrases. The introduction encourages young writers, as do the poems themselves. This anthology speaks to a young adult audience, and it should find many readers.Nina Lindsay, Oakland Public Library, CA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Interlaced with Mexican phrases and cultural symbols, these powerful selections, representing more than 15 years of work, address bicultural life and the meaning of family. Mora speaks very much from an adult perspective, but her poems are about universal experiences--the pleasures of eating pizza and mango, and the cultural significance of both; the wrenching experience of witnessing poverty. Mixed in are personal poems that ask the vital question, "Where am I from?" more directly.

Mora answers in poems that reach back through her own experiences with motherhood (specifically mothering teenagers) and across generations to the landscape of her ancestors. The rich, symbolic imagery, raw emotion, and honesty will appeal to mature teens, and young writers will find inspiration in the warm introduction addressed to "Dear Fellow Writer," and its challenge to "Listen to your inside self, your private voice . . . explore the wonder of being alive." Gillian Engberg

love the history

I've really enjoyed the poetry in this collection! My favorite may be either "Mango Juice" or "Elena." The poems are powerful and easy to read and understand, which would be perfect for a reluctant poem reader.

Celebrated Chicana poet and children's author Pat Mora once again contributes an essential collection to the growing body of U.S. Latina/o literature. Her new and selected poems for young adults address diverse themes, and each section contributes to the empowering vision of the collection. The section titled "Thorns" reveals society's wounds, but the possibility of hope to rise above harsh circumstances.(The fifth star belongs to the next reader, the next young writer.)Mora's poems carve a necessary voice in U.S. poetics. She is a healer with a vision, and the speakers in her poems are mostly witnesses, mapping their own space.

1B- ketzalliH. my own true name is the best peom book I've ever read. It about a mexican lady that talks about her spanish roots. she also talks about what she went through as a child. her first love, her mother, father, sister and what her culture asked her to do. I love this book. this book to me in a number scale is 10.

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