



## Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Hispanic in the United States (Edge Book) (Spanish Edition)

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**Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Hispanic in the United States (Edge Book) (Spanish Edition)** From Brand: Henry Holt and Co. (BYR)

Growing up Latino in America means speaking two languages, living two lives, learning the rules of two cultures. *Cool Salsa* celebrates the tones, rhythms, sounds, and experiences of that double life. Here are poems about families and parties, insults and sad memories, hot dogs and mangos, the sweet syllables of Spanish and the snag-toothed traps of English. Here is the glory, and pain, of being Latino American.

Latino Americans hail from Cuba and California, Mexico and Michigan, Nicaragua and New York, and editor Lori M. Carlson has made sure to capture all of those accents. With poets such as Sandra Cisneros, Martín Espada, Gary Soto, and Ed Vega, and a very personal introduction by Oscar Hijuelos, this collection encompasses the voices of Latino America. By selecting poems about the experiences of teenagers, Carlson has given a focus to that rich diversity; by presenting the poems both in their original language and in translation, she has made them available to us all.

As you move from memories of red wagons, to dreams of orange trees, to fights with street gangs, you feel *Cool Salsa's* musical and emotional cross rhythms. Here is a world of exciting poetry for you, y tú también.

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

As hot as jalapenos and as cool as jazz, this collection serves up "ingles con chile" and Spanish that "you feel in the blood of your soul." Lyrical, traditional poems share space with street-smart free verse, and works by the likes of Sandra Cisneros and Gary Soto are juxtaposed with entries from lesser-knowns. Illustrating the "beat and pulse" of generations of U.S. writers of Latin American heritage, the poems are presented both in the original and in translation; poems making use of both languages are easily accessible to English-only readers by virtue of an appended glossary of Spanish terms. In his introduction, Hijuelos ( *The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love* ) focuses on the "unrelenting, unending sense of second classness" that his parents experienced as Cuban emigrants and explains how this "sense" affected his uses of English and Spanish. The political agenda is not hidden, but the potency of the volume lies in Carlson's eclectic selection of voices--her volume approximates what one poet here calls "a Mixtec chant that touches la tierra and the heavens." Ages 12-up.

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From School Library Journal

Grade 8-12-Whether discussing the immigrant's frustration at not being able to speak English, the violence suffered both within and outside of the ethnic community, the familiar adolescent desire to belong, or celebrating the simple joys of life, these fine poems are incisive and photographic in their depiction of a moment. Some of the poets are well-known, others are not, but all contribute to the whole. The Spanish translations capture the sense of the English so well that without the translator's byline one would be hard pressed to discern the original language. The same is true for those few poems translated from Spanish to English. This is a must for multicultural collections, and excellent enrichment material for literature courses.

*Ann Welton, Terminal Park Elementary School, Auburn, WA*

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 7-12. "Welcome to ESL 100, English Surely Latinized, / ingl{ , }es con chile y cilantro, English as American / as Benito Ju{ }arez. Welcome, muchachos from Xochicalco, / learn the language of d{ç}olares [dollars] and dolores [pains], of kings / and queens, of Donald Duck and Batman. Holy Toluca!" Gina Vald{ , }es' "English con Salsa" leads off this anthology, setting the stage, as it were, for a wonderful assortment of poems that express Latino culture and the concerns of growing up in the U.S. Some of the poems are presented bilingually, translated from the original English or vice versa; others are a telling mix of both languages--"not necessarily Spanglish," according to Carlson. And although the poems are quite diverse stylistically and in subject matter, they all speak to the teenage experience, and the central sense that emerges from the whole is that the very mingling of the two languages is important in assimilating the two cultures and in maintaining an awareness of yourself and your heritage. Hence, slang and fractured grammar slip into both languages here, but at times the Spanish rendition is awkward. (For example, why call the living room el living, rather than la sala?) Some of the pieces express the pain of facing prejudice or brutality; others celebrate the beat of Latino life--the joys of good hot dogs, parties, mangoes, dancing, love. *Sally Estes*

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Melinda Kendall:**

Hey guys, do you really want to find a new book you just read? Maybe the book with the title Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Hispanic in the United States (Edge Book) (Spanish Edition) suitable to you? The actual book was written by renowned writer in this era. The book titled Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Hispanic in the United States (Edge Book) (Spanish Edition) is the one of several books that everyone reads now. This specific book was inspired many people in the world. When you read this publication you will enter the new age that you ever knew just before. The author explained their thought in the simple way, consequently all of people can easily recognize the core of this publication. This book will give you a great deal of information about this world now. To help you see the represented of the world within this book.

**Theresa Gordon:**

The actual book Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Hispanic in the United States (Edge Book) (Spanish Edition) will bring one to the new experience of reading some sort of book. The author's style to spell out the idea is very unique. Should you try to find new book to study, this book is very appropriate to you. The book Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Hispanic in the United States (Edge Book) (Spanish Edition) is much recommended to you you just read. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can more readily read the book.

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**Zachary Kirkland:**

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