

The Tortilla Maker: A Social and Historic Mexican American Narrative



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Reviews

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(Jody Veum)

THE TORTILLA MAKER: A SOCIAL AND HISTORIC MEXICAN AMERICAN NARRATIVE

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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This book is published by Floricanto and Berkeley Presses. Ignacia Arvizu, a strong-willed Mexican teenager lost her father, a wealthy cattleman. Bandidos murdered him and stole the family fortune including all personal possessions; he left behind only an empty hacienda. Ignacia's mother became destitute and had no choice but to find homes for her bright and attractive daughters. In 1913, Ignacia reluctantly entered--forced by her desperate mother--into an arranged marriage to an older, prosperous rancher in Sonora, Mexico. Ignacia, affectionately called Nana by her grandchildren, fought her abusive husband to protect her five children, among them Ramona, the author's mother. Nana's husband suddenly died of pneumonia leaving her once again destitute and now with five small children of her own. Nana--determined to find a better life--walked over a hundred miles with her children in tow for weeks, to reach the nearest city. This brave and exciting memoir recounts Nana's, her daughter Ramona's, and (Ramona's son) the author Jesus's amazing journey from third-world poverty to American prosperity. Ramona divorced her abusive husband to face and overcome similar obstacles, like her mother, Nana, before her. She left to America in 1957 with Jesus-- called Nacho by his family-- and his five siblings in search of a better life. During many desperate times, these tortilla makers would rely on their wits and, ultimately, their skills preparing and selling their uniquely flavored foods influenced by early local French settlers, to survive, prosper, and eventually attaining the American dream. This enchanting narrative--which takes place in the rich historical area of Sonora, Mexico and the Southwest in United States--is a journey interspersed with haunting stories and fascinating...



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