

# **i am not your perfect mexican daughter**

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter** is a powerful, thought-provoking novel that delves into the complexities of identity, family expectations, and cultural heritage. This article offers an in-depth exploration of the book's major themes, character development, and cultural significance. Readers will discover how the story resonates with issues faced by many first-generation immigrants, the challenges of adolescence, and the pressure to meet societal norms. From plot analysis to understanding the impact on contemporary literature, the article covers everything you need to know about "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter". Whether you are a student, educator, or simply interested in modern narratives on identity, this comprehensive guide provides valuable insights and analysis, ensuring you leave with a deeper understanding of the novel's relevance and influence.

- Overview and Plot Summary of "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter"
- Major Themes and Literary Analysis
- Character Exploration: Julia and Supporting Cast
- Cultural Representation and Impact
- Reception, Awards, and Critical Response
- Key Lessons and Takeaways

## **Overview and Plot Summary of "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter"**

"I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter," written by Erika L. Sánchez, is a critically acclaimed young adult novel that explores the life of Julia Reyes, a teenager navigating grief, family expectations, and her Mexican-American identity. The story begins with the sudden death of Julia's older sister, Olga, who was considered the ideal daughter. As Julia grapples with loss, she is confronted with her parents' expectations and the pressure to conform to traditional values.

Set in Chicago, the novel paints a vivid picture of the challenges facing immigrant families. Julia's quest to uncover secrets about Olga's life reveals complexities beneath the surface, challenging the perception of perfection and exposing the struggles of assimilation. The plot intricately weaves together themes of mental health, generational conflict, and self-discovery, making it a compelling read for audiences of all backgrounds.

- Julia's journey to understand her sister and herself
- The impact of family and cultural expectations
- Exploration of grief and healing
- Revelation of hidden truths within immigrant families

## **Major Themes and Literary Analysis**

### **Identity and Self-Discovery**

Central to "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter" is the theme of identity. Julia struggles to define herself outside the confines of her parents' expectations and the shadow of her sister's perceived perfection. The novel examines how cultural heritage shapes personal identity and the tension between individuality and familial duty.

### **Family Expectations and Pressure**

The story highlights the pressures placed on children in immigrant families to meet parental standards. Julia's relationship with her parents, especially her mother, is fraught with misunderstandings and conflict. The narrative explores how these expectations impact mental health and personal growth.

### **Mental Health and Grief**

Grief, depression, and anxiety are portrayed with sensitivity and realism. Julia's emotional journey after Olga's death addresses the often-unspoken challenges of mental health in Latino communities. The book encourages dialogue about the stigma surrounding these issues and the importance of seeking help.

### **Cultural Assimilation and Generational Conflict**

The novel illustrates the clash between traditional Mexican values and the realities of growing up in the United States. Julia's desire for independence and self-expression often conflicts with her parents' beliefs, reflecting broader generational struggles common in immigrant families.

# Character Exploration: Julia and Supporting Cast

## Julia Reyes: A Complex Protagonist

Julia is a bold, intelligent, and rebellious teenager who refuses to fit the mold of the "perfect Mexican daughter." Her candid voice and introspective nature make her a compelling character, relatable to anyone who has felt misunderstood or pressured to conform.

## Olga Reyes: The Ideal Daughter

Olga's death serves as the catalyst for the narrative. Through Julia's investigation, readers learn that Olga's life was not as perfect as it seemed. This revelation challenges the stereotype of the ideal child and underscores the complexity of personal struggles.

## Supporting Characters

- Amá (Julia's mother): Represents traditional values and the emotional weight of loss.
- Apá (Julia's father): A quieter presence, struggling to connect with Julia.
- Lorena and Juanga: Julia's friends who provide support and a sense of belonging.
- Connor: Julia's romantic interest, offering a glimpse into her desires beyond family expectations.

Each character adds depth to the story, reflecting the diversity and complexity of immigrant experiences.

## Cultural Representation and Impact

### Authentic Portrayal of Mexican-American Life

"I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter" stands out for its authentic representation of Mexican-American culture. The novel integrates language, traditions, and familial dynamics, offering readers a window into the lives

of first-generation immigrants. This cultural richness fosters greater understanding and empathy among diverse audiences.

## **Influence on Young Adult Literature**

The book has become a significant work in contemporary young adult literature, highlighting the need for diverse voices and stories. Its honest depiction of identity struggles and family dynamics has inspired other authors to tackle similar themes, broadening the scope of representation in literature.

## **Encouraging Conversations on Mental Health**

By addressing mental health openly, the novel challenges taboos and encourages readers to discuss these important issues. Its impact extends beyond literature, prompting schools, families, and communities to prioritize mental wellness and support for young people.

## **Reception, Awards, and Critical Response**

### **Critical Acclaim**

"I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter" received widespread critical acclaim for its honest storytelling, complex characters, and cultural insight. Reviewers praised Erika L. Sánchez's ability to capture the nuances of grief, identity, and adolescence, making the novel a standout in its genre.

### **Notable Awards and Recognition**

- National Book Award Finalist for Young People's Literature
- Time Magazine's Best YA Book of All Time
- Inclusion on multiple "best of" lists

These accolades reflect the novel's impact and its resonance with readers across age groups and backgrounds.

### **Reader and Community Response**

The book has sparked important conversations about immigration, mental health, and the pressure to conform. Readers have connected deeply with

Julia's story, finding validation and understanding in her struggles. The novel is frequently used in schools and book clubs to foster dialogue and empathy.

## **Key Lessons and Takeaways**

### **Breaking Stereotypes and Embracing Authenticity**

One of the primary lessons from "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter" is the importance of breaking stereotypes and embracing individuality. Julia's journey teaches readers to question societal norms and prioritize self-acceptance.

### **The Value of Open Communication**

The story underscores the necessity of honest communication, especially within families. Addressing difficult topics, such as mental health and generational differences, can lead to deeper understanding and healing.

### **Empowering Young Voices**

- Encourages young people to speak up about their needs and experiences.
- Promotes the importance of representation in literature and media.
- Inspires readers to challenge expectations and create their own path.

These takeaways make the novel relevant to a wide audience, offering guidance and inspiration for anyone navigating the challenges of identity, culture, and family.

## **Trending Questions and Answers About "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter"**

### **Q: What is the main theme of "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter"?**

A: The main theme is the struggle for personal identity in the face of family and cultural expectations, focusing on self-discovery, mental health, and

generational conflict.

**Q: How does the novel address mental health issues?**

A: The novel portrays mental health challenges such as grief, depression, and anxiety with realism and empathy, encouraging open discussions and understanding within Latino communities.

**Q: Who is Julia Reyes, and what makes her character unique?**

A: Julia Reyes is the protagonist, a rebellious, intelligent teenager who rejects traditional expectations and seeks to define herself beyond her family's and society's standards.

**Q: What role does Olga play in the story?**

A: Olga's death is central to the plot, and her hidden life challenges the notion of perfection, prompting Julia to investigate and uncover family secrets.

**Q: Why is "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter" significant in young adult literature?**

A: The novel is significant for its authentic representation of Mexican-American life, honest depiction of mental health, and its role in expanding diversity within young adult literature.

**Q: What awards has the book received?**

A: The book was a National Book Award finalist and has appeared on numerous best-of lists, including recognition from Time Magazine.

**Q: How does the novel portray generational conflict in immigrant families?**

A: Through Julia's relationship with her parents, the novel highlights misunderstandings, differing values, and the challenges of balancing cultural heritage with modern life.

**Q: What are some key lessons from "I Am Not Your**

## **Perfect Mexican Daughter"?**

A: Key lessons include the importance of self-acceptance, breaking stereotypes, and fostering open communication within families.

## **Q: Is "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter" suitable for classroom discussion?**

A: Yes, the novel is frequently used in educational settings to discuss identity, mental health, and cultural representation, making it a valuable resource for students.

## **Q: What impact has the novel had on readers and communities?**

A: The novel has sparked dialogue about immigration, mental health, and individuality, resonating with readers from diverse backgrounds and encouraging greater empathy and understanding.

## **[I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter](#)**

Find other PDF articles:

<https://fc1.getfilecloud.com/t5-goramblers-03/pdf?dataid=bhp02-0579&title=domain-and-range-worksheets-2-answer-key.pdf>

## **I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter: Reclaiming Identity and Challenging Expectations**

Introduction:

The title "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter" resonates with a powerful undercurrent of defiance and self-discovery. This isn't just a memoir title; it's a declaration of independence from the suffocating weight of cultural expectations and inherited narratives. This post delves into the complexities of navigating cultural identity, familial pressure, and the struggle to define oneself on one's own terms, particularly for women of Mexican descent. We will explore the pressures faced by many young women, the internal conflict this creates, and ultimately, the journey towards self-acceptance and empowerment. This isn't about rejecting heritage; it's about embracing authenticity.

## **H2: The Weight of Expectation: The "Perfect Mexican Daughter" Myth**

The concept of the "perfect Mexican daughter" is a socially constructed ideal, often rooted in traditional values and patriarchal structures. It's a pressure cooker of expectations: be devoutly Catholic, prioritize family above all else, excel academically while maintaining impeccable domestic skills, remain demure and obedient, and flawlessly uphold family honor. This idealized image is rarely attainable, and striving for it can be incredibly damaging to a young woman's mental and emotional well-being. The constant feeling of falling short fuels anxiety, guilt, and a sense of inadequacy.

## **H2: Navigating Cultural Identity: Between Two Worlds**

Many women who grapple with the "perfect daughter" pressure also find themselves caught between two worlds: the traditional values of their families and the modern, often more individualistic, values of the broader society. This internal conflict can be particularly intense for those raised in immigrant families or communities where traditional values hold strong sway. They might feel the pull of assimilation while simultaneously feeling the weight of cultural heritage and familial expectations. This duality fosters a sense of displacement and identity crisis.

## **H3: The Silence of Shame and the Power of Rebellion**

The shame associated with failing to meet these expectations often fosters silence. Daughters may conceal their struggles, fearing judgment or rejection from their families. However, this silence can be a powerful breeding ground for resentment and self-destruction. The act of challenging these expectations, even subtly, represents a powerful form of rebellion against a system that seeks to define and confine.

## **H2: Redefining "Perfect": Embracing Authenticity**

The journey toward self-acceptance and empowerment begins with a conscious rejection of the "perfect" archetype. It's about recognizing that perfection is an unattainable and ultimately limiting ideal. Instead, embracing authenticity means acknowledging your flaws, celebrating your strengths, and defining your own values and priorities. This process may involve difficult conversations with family members, setting boundaries, and potentially facing disapproval.

## **H3: The Power of Self-Compassion and Self-Care**

Recognizing the emotional toll of these expectations is crucial. Self-compassion and self-care are essential tools in navigating this complex journey. This could involve therapy, journaling, connecting with supportive communities, pursuing personal passions, and engaging in activities that promote mental and emotional well-being. Prioritizing self-care is not selfish; it's a form of self-preservation.

## **H2: Finding Your Voice and Sharing Your Story**

Sharing your story, whether through writing, art, or conversation, can be a powerful act of reclaiming your narrative. It's a way of breaking the silence, connecting with others who share similar experiences, and creating a sense of community. It also allows you to redefine the narrative around Mexican women and challenge societal expectations.

## **H2: Celebrating Our Differences: A Rich Tapestry of Identities**

The "perfect Mexican daughter" myth erases the richness and diversity within the Mexican culture and its diaspora. There is no single definition of what it means to be Mexican, just as there's no single way to be a daughter. Embracing the multifaceted nature of identity is crucial for creating a more inclusive and empowering space for women of Mexican descent.

Conclusion:

The journey of reclaiming your identity is personal, challenging, and ultimately rewarding. It requires courage, self-awareness, and a willingness to challenge deeply ingrained societal and familial norms. The message of "I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter" is a powerful testament to the resilience, strength, and self-determination of women who refuse to be defined by the limitations of others' expectations. It is a call for self-acceptance, empowerment, and the creation of a more authentic and fulfilling life.

FAQs:

1. Is this book only for women of Mexican descent? While the book resonates deeply with women of Mexican heritage, the themes of familial pressure, cultural identity, and self-discovery are universal and can be relatable to anyone navigating similar challenges.
2. How can I find support if I'm struggling with similar issues? Consider seeking support through therapy, support groups focusing on cultural identity or family dynamics, or connecting with online communities of like-minded individuals.
3. How can I have difficult conversations with family members about my identity? Approach these conversations with empathy and understanding, but also with firmness and clarity about your boundaries and needs. Be prepared for potential resistance and allow for time and space for understanding to develop.

4. What are some practical steps to practice self-care? Prioritize activities that bring you joy and relaxation, such as exercise, spending time in nature, engaging in creative pursuits, and cultivating healthy relationships.

5. Can I still honor my heritage while rejecting the "perfect daughter" ideal? Absolutely! You can honor your heritage and cultural traditions while simultaneously defining your own values and priorities. It's about integrating your heritage into your unique and authentic self, not allowing it to define you entirely.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter** Erika L. Sánchez, 2017-10-17 National Book Award Finalist! Instant New York Times Bestseller! The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian meets Jane the Virgin in this poignant but often laugh-out-loud funny contemporary YA about losing a sister and finding yourself amid the pressures, expectations, and stereotypes of growing up in a Mexican-American home. Perfect Mexican daughters do not go away to college. And they do not move out of their parents' house after high school graduation. Perfect Mexican daughters never abandon their family. But Julia is not your perfect Mexican daughter. That was Olga's role. Then a tragic accident on the busiest street in Chicago leaves Olga dead and Julia left behind to reassemble the shattered pieces of her family. And no one seems to acknowledge that Julia is broken, too. Instead, her mother seems to channel her grief into pointing out every possible way Julia has failed. But it's not long before Julia discovers that Olga might not have been as perfect as everyone thought. With the help of her best friend Lorena, and her first love, first everything boyfriend Connor, Julia is determined to find out. Was Olga really what she seemed? Or was there more to her sister's story? And either way, how can Julia even attempt to live up to a seemingly impossible ideal? "Alive and crackling—a gritty tale wrapped in a page-turner."—The New York Times "Unique and fresh." —Entertainment Weekly "A standout." —NPR

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Becoming Marta** Lorea Canales, 2016 Thanks to her wealthy and well-connected family, twenty-six-year-old Marta is used to getting whatever she wants. And what she wants is a good time. That is, until her father's wife--the woman who raised her--becomes ill. Beautiful young Marta is forced to witness her unfaithful, brutish father abandon her adoptive mother in her final moments. After her father's swift remarriage, Marta is surprised to discover that she is now the sole heir of her late mother's sizeable estate. For the first time, she can choose to cut ties and establish her true self, apart from her parents, her social standing, and the complications of a life of excess. From the balmy beaches of Mexico to New York City, Marta searches for clues to her unconventional heritage and seeks to shed her family's tradition of secrecy and betrayal as she finds her own way--Page 4 of cover.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Crying in the Bathroom** Erika L. Sánchez, 2022-07-12 "Equal parts pee-your-pants hilarity and break your heart poignancy- like the perfect brunch date you never want to end!--America Ferrera, Emmy award-winning actress in Ugly Betty From the New York Times bestselling author of I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter, an utterly original memoir-in-essays that is as deeply moving as it is disarmingly funny Growing up as the daughter of Mexican immigrants in Chicago in the '90s, Erika L. Sánchez was a self-described pariah, misfit, and disappointment—a foul-mouthed, melancholic rabble-rouser who painted her nails black but also loved comedy and dreamed of an unlikely life as a poet. Twenty-five years later, she's now an award-winning novelist, poet, and essayist, but she's still got an irrepressible laugh, an acerbic wit, and singular powers of perception about the world around her. In these essays about everything from sex to white feminism to debilitating depression to the redemptive pursuits of spirituality, art, and travel, Sánchez reveals an interior life that is rich with ideas, self-awareness, and perception—that of a woman who charted a path entirely of her own making. Raunchy, insightful, unapologetic, and brutally honest, Crying in the Bathroom is Sánchez at her best: a book

that will make you feel that post-confessional high that comes from talking for hours with your best friend.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter** Erika L. Sánchez, 2019-03-05 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A “stunning” (America Ferrera) YA novel about a teenager coming to terms with losing her sister and finding herself amid the pressures, expectations, and stereotypes of growing up in a Mexican American home. “Alive and crackling—a gritty tale wrapped in a page-turner.”—The New York Times Perfect Mexican daughters do not go away to college. And they do not move out of their parents’ house after high school graduation. Perfect Mexican daughters never abandon their family. But Julia is not your perfect Mexican daughter. That was Olga’s role. Then a tragic accident on the busiest street in Chicago leaves Olga dead and Julia left behind to reassemble the shattered pieces of her family. And no one seems to acknowledge that Julia is broken, too. Instead, her mother seems to channel her grief into pointing out every possible way Julia has failed. But it’s not long before Julia discovers that Olga might not have been as perfect as everyone thought. With the help of her best friend Lorena, and her first love, first everything boyfriend Connor, Julia is determined to find out. Was Olga really what she seemed? Or was there more to her sister’s story? And either way, how can Julia even attempt to live up to a seemingly impossible ideal?

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Here We Are Now** Jasmine Warga, 2017-11-07 'Funny and heartfelt... fans of Sarah Dessen or Rainbow Rowell will adore this novel' - Culturefly 'Fans of High Fidelity and Nick + Nora, get your hands on this book ASAP' - Popsugar Despite sending him letters ever since she was thirteen, Taliah Abdallat never thought she'd ever really meet Julian Oliver. But one day, while her mother is out of the country, the famed rock star from Staring Into the Abyss shows up on her doorstep. This makes sense - kinda - because it turns out Julian Oliver is Taliah's father... When Julian asks her to go with him to his hometown to meet the family she has never known, Taliah embarks on a three-day voyage of discovery - of her father, of the past her mother has never shared with her, and of herself. From the bestselling author of MY HEART AND OTHER BLACK HOLES, this is a beautiful and heartwarming novel of music, family, and friendship.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Gabi, a Girl in Pieces** Isabel Quintero, 2014-10-14 Gabi’s a girl in pieces. She wants a lot of things. Will she find the thing she needs most?

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: You're Welcome, Universe** Whitney Gardner, 2017-03-07 A vibrant, edgy, fresh new YA voice for fans of More Happy Than Not and Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda, packed with interior graffiti. Winner of the Schneider Family Book Award! When Julia finds a slur about her best friend scrawled across the back of the Kingston School for the Deaf, she covers it up with a beautiful (albeit illegal) graffiti mural. Her supposed best friend snitches, the principal expels her, and her two mothers set Julia up with a one-way ticket to a “mainstream” school in the suburbs, where she’s treated like an outcast as the only deaf student. The last thing she has left is her art, and not even Banksy himself could convince her to give that up. Out in the ‘burbs, Julia paints anywhere she can, eager to claim some turf of her own. But Julia soon learns that she might not be the only vandal in town. Someone is adding to her tags, making them better, showing off—and showing Julia up in the process. She expected her art might get painted over by cops. But she never imagined getting dragged into a full-blown graffiti war. Told with wit and grit by debut author Whitney Gardner, who also provides gorgeous interior illustrations of Julia’s graffiti tags, You’re Welcome, Universe introduces audiences to a one-of-a-kind protagonist who is unabashedly herself no matter what life throws in her way. [A] spectacular debut...a moving, beautifully written contemporary novel full of quirky art and complicated friendships...this book is a gift to be thankful for.—BookRiot

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Reading Group Choices** Reading Group Choices, 2008

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Damn Delicious** Rhee, Chungah, 2016-09-06 The debut cookbook by the creator of the wildly popular blog Damn Delicious proves that quick and easy

doesn't have to mean boring. Blogger Chungah Rhee has attracted millions of devoted fans with recipes that are undeniable 'keepers'-each one so simple, so easy, and so flavor-packed, that you reach for them busy night after busy night. In *Damn Delicious*, she shares exclusive new recipes as well as her most beloved dishes, all designed to bring fun and excitement into everyday cooking. From five-ingredient Mini Deep Dish Pizzas to no-fuss Sheet Pan Steak & Veggies and 20-minute Spaghetti Carbonara, the recipes will help even the most inexperienced cooks spend less time in the kitchen and more time around the table. Packed with quickie breakfasts, 30-minute skillet sprints, and speedy takeout copycats, this cookbook is guaranteed to inspire readers to whip up fast, healthy, homemade meals that are truly 'damn delicious!'

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: When We Were Infinite** Kelly Loy Gilbert, 2021-03-09 From award-winning author Kelly Loy Gilbert comes a powerful, achingly romantic drama about the secrets we keep, from each other and from ourselves, perfect for fans of *Permanent Record* and *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*. All Beth wants is for her tight-knit circle of friends—Grace Nakamura, Brandon Lin, Sunny Chen, and Jason Tsou—to stay together. With her family splintered and her future a question mark, these friends are all she has—even if she sometimes wonders if she truly fits in with them. Besides, she's certain she'll never be able to tell Jason how she really feels about him, so friendship will have to be enough. Then Beth witnesses a private act of violence in Jason's home, and the whole group is shaken. Beth and her friends make a pact to do whatever it takes to protect Jason, no matter the sacrifice. But when even their fierce loyalty isn't enough to stop Jason from making a life-altering choice, Beth must decide how far she's willing to go for him—and how much of herself she's willing to give up.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: It Goes Like This** Miel Moreland, 2021-05-18 In Miel Moreland's heartfelt young adult debut, *It Goes Like This*, four queer teens realize that sometimes you have to risk hitting repeat on heartbreak. Eva, Celeste, Gina, and Steph used to think their friendship was unbreakable. After all, they've been through a lot together, including the astronomical rise of Moonlight Overthrow, the world-famous queer pop band they formed in middle school, never expecting to headline anything bigger than the county fair. But after a sudden falling out leads to the dissolution of the teens' band, their friendship, and Eva and Celeste's starry-eyed romance, nothing is the same. Gina and Celeste step further into the spotlight, Steph disappears completely, and Eva, heartbroken, takes refuge as a songwriter and secret online fangirl...of her own band. That is, until a storm devastates their hometown, bringing the four ex-best-friends back together. As they prepare for one last show, they'll discover whether growing up always means growing apart. *It Goes Like This* was everything my music nerd heart needed AND wanted. Lyrical and heart-wrenching...beautiful representation, sweetest longing and the pop-star romance of my dreams; Swifties will swoon happily with this story tattooed on their hearts. —Erin Hahn, author of *You'd Be Mine* and *More Than Maybe*

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Under the Banner of Heaven** Jon Krakauer, 2004-06-08 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • From the author of *Into the Wild* and *Into Thin Air*, this extraordinary work of investigative journalism takes readers inside America's isolated Mormon Fundamentalist communities. • Now an acclaimed FX limited series streaming on HULU. "Fantastic.... Right up there with *In Cold Blood* and *The Executioner's Song*." —San Francisco Chronicle Defying both civil authorities and the Mormon establishment in Salt Lake City, the renegade leaders of these Taliban-like theocracies are zealots who answer only to God; some 40,000 people still practice polygamy in these communities. At the core of Krakauer's book are brothers Ron and Dan Lafferty, who insist they received a commandment from God to kill a blameless woman and her baby girl. Beginning with a meticulously researched account of this appalling double murder, Krakauer constructs a multi-layered, bone-chilling narrative of messianic delusion, polygamy, savage violence, and unyielding faith. Along the way he uncovers a shadowy offshoot of America's fastest growing religion, and raises provocative questions about the nature of religious belief.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Cheat Day** Liv Stratman, 2022-01-18 This clever

and witty debut novel about the unexpected consequences of one woman's attempt to exert control over her life by adhering to a strict wellness routine is "the kind of book you devour in a day or two...sexy and funny, but also very perceptive" (BuzzFeed). Kit and David were college sweethearts. Now married and in their thirties, they live in Kit's childhood home in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. While David has a successful career, jetting off on work trips to exciting destinations, Kit is stuck in a loop. She keeps quitting her job managing her sister's bakery to seek a more ambitious profession, but fear of failure always brings her back to Sweet Cheeks. Kit finds a fraught solace in cycling through fad diets, which David, in his efforts to be supportive, follows along with her. Their latest program is the Radiant Regimen, an intense cleanse, and Kit is optimistic about embarking on a new chapter of healthy eating and self-control. Hungry in more ways than one, she soon falls into a flirtation with a carpenter named Matt who is building new shelves for the bakery kitchen. Unable to resist their mutual attraction, Kit and Matt soon begin a passionate affair. Kit suppresses her guilt by obsessing over her diet, pushing herself in greater extremes. Told in precise, intimate detail, *Cheat Day* is "an incredibly likable novel of hungers controlled and liberated, and marriage's gray areas" (Booklist) that explores monogamy versus monotony, deprivation versus indulgence, and limitations of modern wellness.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *When Reason Breaks* Cindy L. Rodriguez, 2015-02-10 *13 Reasons Why* meets the poetry of Emily Dickinson in this gripping debut novel that's perfect for fans of Sara Zarr or Jennifer Brown. A Goth girl with an attitude problem, Elizabeth Davis must learn to control her anger before it destroys her. Emily Delgado appears to be a smart, sweet girl with a normal life, but as depression clutches at her, she struggles to feel normal. Both girls are in Ms. Diaz's English class, where they connect to the words of Emily Dickinson. Both are hovering on the edge of an emotional precipice. One of them will attempt suicide. And with Dickinson's poetry as their guide, both girls must conquer their personal demons to ever be happy. In an emotionally taut novel that is equal parts literary and commercial, with a richly diverse cast of characters, readers will relish in the poetry of Emily Dickinson and be completely swept up in the turmoil of two girls fighting for their lives in Cindy L. Rodriguez's stunning debut.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *The Memory of Light* Francisco X. Stork, 2016-01-26 This beautiful novel from the author of *Marcelo in the Real World* about life after a suicide attempt is perfect for fans of *It's Kind of a Funny Story* and *Thirteen Reasons Why*. When Vicky Cruz wakes up in the Lakeview Hospital Mental Disorders ward, she knows one thing: After her suicide attempt, she shouldn't be alive. But then she meets Mona, the live wire; Gabriel, the saint; E.M., always angry; and Dr. Desai, a quiet force. With stories and honesty, kindness and hard work, they push her to reconsider her life before Lakeview, and offer her an acceptance she's never had. But Vicky's newfound peace is as fragile as the roses that grow around the hospital. And when a crisis forces the group to split up, sending Vicky back to the life that drove her to suicide, she must try to find her own courage and strength. She may not have them. She doesn't know. Inspired in part by the author's own experience with depression, *The Memory of Light* is the rare young adult novel that focuses not on the events leading up to a suicide attempt, but the recovery from one -- about living when life doesn't seem worth it, and how we go on anyway.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *Red Wolf* Jennifer Dance, 2014-01-20 This novel tells the story of Red Wolf, a young First Nations boy forced to move into a residential school and assume a new identity. Paralleling his story is that of Crooked Ear, an orphaned wolf pup he has befriended. Both must learn to survive in the white man's world.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *Mexican WhiteBoy* Matt de la Peña, 2008-08-12 Newbery Award-winning and New York Times bestselling author Matt de la Peña's *Mexican WhiteBoy* is a story of friendship, acceptance, and the struggle to find your identity in a world of definitions. Danny's tall and skinny. Even though he's not built, his arms are long enough to give his pitch a power so fierce any college scout would sign him on the spot. Ninety-five mile an hour fastball, but the boy's not even on a team. Every time he gets up on the mound he loses it. But at his private school, they don't expect much else from him. Danny's brown. Half-Mexican brown. And

growing up in San Diego that close to the border means everyone else knows exactly who he is before he even opens his mouth. Before they find out he can't speak Spanish, and before they realize his mom has blond hair and blue eyes, they've got him pegged. But it works the other way too. And Danny's convinced it's his whiteness that sent his father back to Mexico. That's why he's spending the summer with his dad's family. Only, to find himself, he may just have to face the demons he refuses to see--the demons that are right in front of his face. And open up to a friendship he never saw coming. Matt de la Peña's critically acclaimed novel is an intimate and moving story that offers hope to those who least expect it. [A] first-rate exploration of self-identity.-SLJ Unique in its gritty realism and honest portrayal of the complexities of life for inner-city teens...De la Peña poignantly conveys the message that, despite obstacles, you must believe in yourself and shape your own future.-The Horn Book Magazine The baseball scenes...sizzle like Danny's fastball...Danny's struggle to find his place will speak strongly to all teens, but especially to those of mixed race.-Booklist De la Peña blends sports and street together in a satisfying search for personal identity.-Kirkus Reviews Mexican WhiteBoy...shows that no matter what obstacles you face, you can still reach your dreams with a positive attitude. This is more than a book about a baseball player--this is a book about life.-Curtis Granderson, New York Mets outfielder An ALA-YALSA Top Ten Best Book for Young Adults A Junior Library Guild Selection

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *American Royals III: Rivals* Katharine McGee, 2022-05-31 The third book in the New York Times bestselling American Royals series is here, and a meeting of monarchs will test everyone's loyalty to the crown...and their own hearts. Beatrice is queen, and for the American royal family, everything is about to change. Relationships will be tested. Princess Samantha is in love with Lord Marshall Davis—but the more serious they get, the more complicated things become. Is Sam destined to repeat her string of broken relationships...and this time will the broken heart be her own? Strangers will become friends. Beatrice is representing America at the greatest convocation of kings and queens in the world. When she meets a glamorous foreign princess, she gets drawn into the inner circle...but at what cost? And rivals will become allies. Nina and Daphne have spent years competing for Prince Jefferson. Now they have something in common: they both want to take down manipulative Lady Gabriella Madison. Can these enemies join forces, or will old rivalries stand in the way?

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *Sally's Baking Addiction* Sally McKenney, 2016-10-11 Updated with a brand-new selection of desserts and treats, the fully illustrated Sally's Baking Addiction cookbook offers more than 80 scrumptious recipes for indulging your sweet tooth—featuring a chapter of healthier dessert options, including some vegan and gluten-free recipes. It's no secret that Sally McKenney loves to bake. Her popular blog, Sally's Baking Addiction, has become a trusted source for fellow dessert lovers who are also eager to bake from scratch. Sally's famous recipes include award-winning Salted Caramel Dark Chocolate Cookies, No-Bake Peanut Butter Banana Pie, delectable Dark Chocolate Butterscotch Cupcakes, and yummy Marshmallow Swirl S'mores Fudge. Find tried-and-true sweet recipes for all kinds of delicious: Breads & Muffins Breakfasts Brownies & Bars Cakes, Pies & Crisps Candy & Sweet Snacks Cookies Cupcakes Healthier Choices With tons of simple, easy-to-follow recipes, you get all of the sweet with none of the fuss! Hungry for more? Learn to create even more irresistible sweets with Sally's Candy Addiction and Sally's Cookie Addiction.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *This Is My Brain in Love* I. W. Gregorio, 2020-04-14 Told in dual narrative, *This Is My Brain in Love* is a stunning YA contemporary romance, exploring mental health, race, and, ultimately self-acceptance, for fans of *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter* and *Emergency Contact*. Jocelyn Wu has just three wishes for her junior year: To make it through without dying of boredom, to direct a short film with her BFF Priya Venkatram, and to get at least two months into the year without being compared to or confused with Peggy Chang, the only other Chinese girl in her grade. Will Domenici has two goals: to find a paying summer internship, and to prove he has what it takes to become an editor on his school paper. Then Jocelyn's father tells her their family restaurant may be going under, and all wishes are off. Because her dad has the

marketing skills of a dumpling, it's up to Jocelyn and her unlikely new employee, Will, to bring A-Plus Chinese Garden into the 21st century (or, at least, to Facebook). What starts off as a rocky partnership soon grows into something more. But family prejudices and the uncertain future of A-Plus threaten to keep Will and Jocelyn apart. It will take everything they have and more, to save the family restaurant and their budding romance.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: The Breakbeat Poets Vol. 4** Felicia Chavez, José Olivarez, Willie Perdomo, 2020-04-07 In the dynamic tradition of the BreakBeat Poets anthology, The BreakBeat Poets Vol. 4: LatiNEXT celebrates the embodied narratives of Latinidad. Poets speak from an array of nationalities, genders, sexualities, races, and writing styles, staking a claim to our cultural and civic space. Like Hip-Hop, we honor what was, what is, and what's next.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: The Girl Who Ate Everything: Easy Family Recipes from a Girl Who Has Tried Them All** Christy Denney, 2023-02-02 Five hungry kids, a husband in the NFL, and staying in shape—popular blogger Christy Denney has her work cut out for her in the kitchen. Her solution? Simple, quick, and mouthwatering recipes. The Girl Who Ate Everything compiles all of Christy's favorite tried and true recipes, as well as brand new and equally tasty ones created just for this book. From Chicken Pot Pie Crumble to Cinnamon Roll Sheet Cake, these recipes will have your family begging you for more!

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Rise Up!** Chris Jones, 2018-11-15 Penned by one of America's best-known daily theatre critics and organized chronologically, this lively and readable book tells the story of Broadway's renaissance from the darkest days of the AIDS crisis, via the disaster that was Spiderman: Turn off the Dark through the unparalleled financial, artistic and political success of Lin-Manuel Miranda's Hamilton. It is the story of the embrace of risk and substance. In so doing, Chris Jones makes the point that the theatre thrived by finally figuring out how to embrace the bold statement and insert itself into the national conversation - only to find out in 2016 that a hefty sector of the American public had not been listening to what it had to say. Chris Jones was in the theatres when and where it mattered. He takes readers from the moment when Tony Kushner's angel crashed (quite literally) through the ceiling of prejudice and religious intolerance to the triumph of Hamilton, with the coda of the Broadway cast addressing a new Republican vice-president from the stage. That complex performance - at once indicative of the theatre's new clout and its inability to fully change American society for the better - is the final scene of the book.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: We Told Six Lies** Victoria Scott, 2019-02-05 Remember how many lies we told, Molly? It's enough to make my head spin. You were wild and free when we met, and I was completely fascinated by you. But now you're gone. Disappeared. And the police are asking questions. But don't worry, I'll find you. Somewhere in the story of us—of you and me, and that immediate, intense connection we had—I'll find the answers. I'll find you. I've got places to look and a list of names. The police have a list of names, too. But you and I know that's another lie. There's only one person they're really looking at, Molly. And that's me.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Clap When You Land** Elizabeth Acevedo, 2020-05-05 In a novel-in-verse that brims with grief and love, National Book Award-winning and New York Times bestselling author Elizabeth Acevedo writes about the devastation of loss, the difficulty of forgiveness, and the bittersweet bonds that shape our lives. Camino Rios lives for the summers when her father visits her in the Dominican Republic. But this time, on the day when his plane is supposed to land, Camino arrives at the airport to see crowds of crying people... In New York City, Yahaira Rios is called to the principal's office, where her mother is waiting to tell her that her father, her hero, has died in a plane crash. Separated by distance—and Papi's secrets—the two girls are forced to face a new reality in which their father is dead and their lives are forever altered. And then, when it seems like they've lost everything of their father, they learn of each other. Great for summer reading or anytime! Clap When You Land is a Today show pick for "25 children's books your kids and teens won't be able to put down this summer! Plus don't miss Elizabeth Acevedo's The Poet X and With the Fire on High!

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** I Hope You Get This Message Farah Naz Rishi, 2019-10-22 In this high concept YA novel debut that's *We All Looked Up* meets *The Sun Is Also a Star*, three teens must face down the mistakes of their past after they learn that life on Earth might end in less than a week. News stations across the country are reporting mysterious messages that Earth has been receiving from a planet—Alma—claiming to be its creator. If they're being interpreted correctly, in seven days Alma will hit the kill switch on their "colony" Earth. True or not, for teenagers Jesse Hewitt, Cate Collins, and Adeem Khan, the prospect of this ticking time bomb will change their lives forever. Jesse, who has been dealt one bad blow after another, wonders if it even matters what happens to the world. Cate, on the other hand, is desperate to use this time to find the father she never met. And Adeem, who hasn't spoken to his estranged sister in years, must find out if he has it in him to forgive her for leaving. With only a week to face their truths and right their wrongs, Jesse, Cate, and Adeem's paths collide as their worlds are pulled apart.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *Cazadora* Romina Garber, 2021-08-17 In *Cazadora*, Romina Garber weaves together Argentine folklore and what it means to be illegal in a timely, intimate, and emotionally powerful narrative. Werewolves. Witches. Romance. Resistance. Enter a world straight out of Argentine folklore... Following the events of *Lobizona*, Manu and her friends cross the mystical border into Kerana—a cursed realm in Argentina—searching for allies and a hiding place. As they chase down leads about the Coven—a mythical resistance manada that might not even exist—the Cazadores chase down leads about Manu, setting up traps to capture and arrest her. Just as it seems the Cazadores have Manu and her friends cornered, the Coven answers their call for help. As Manu catches her breath among these non-conforming Septimus, she discovers they need a revolution as much as she does. But is she the right one to lead them? After all, hybrids aren't just outlawed. They're feared and reviled. What happens when the Coven learns of Manu's dual heritage? Will they still protect her? Or will they betray her? And after running this far, for this long—how much farther can Manu go before her feet get tired, and she stops to take a stand?

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *Speak of Me As I Am* Sonia Belasco, 2017-04-04 A moving story of grief, honesty, and the healing power of art — the ties that bind us together, even when those we love are gone. Melanie and Damon are both living in the shadow of loss. For Melanie, it's the loss of her larger-than-life artist mother, taken by cancer well before her time. For Damon, it's the loss of his best friend, Carlos, who took his own life. As they struggle to fill the empty spaces their loved ones left behind, fate conspires to bring them together. Damon takes pictures with Carlos's camera to try to understand his choices, and Melanie begins painting as a way of feeling closer to her mother. But when the two join their school's production of *Othello*, the play they both hoped would be a distraction becomes a test of who they truly are, both together and on their own. And more than anything else, they discover that it just might be possible to live their lives without completely letting go of their sadness. Praise for *Speak of Me As I Am*: Debut author Belasco adeptly captures the tribulations of high school life while also celebrating art's ability to help clarify and contextualize its joys and sorrows. . . . The novel's most intriguing character . . . is grief itself, which the author illuminates, examines, and dissects with a surgeon's precision and the gentle touch of an artist. A stirring account of the trials of adolescence. —Kirkus Reviews This book will undoubtedly be compared to Rainbow Rowell's *Eleanor & Park*. . . . Teens seeking a quieter but no less moving story will find this book a perfect read. —Booklist Never maudlin, always authentic, the portrayal of their struggles to deal with grief and with love will resonate with many teens. —VOYA A good purchase for realistic fiction collections and for readers looking for books about survivor's guilt and healing. —School Library Journal Belasco's novel sends a powerful message about the complicated nature of grief. . . . This powerful, emotional work should be earmarked to be a favorite with teen readers. —BookPage

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *Your Word is Your Wand* Florence Scovel Shinn, 2024-02-12 *Your Word is Your Wand* by Florence Scovel Shinn is a classic work that delves into the transformative power of words and affirmations. Originally published in the early 20th century, this book explores the idea that the words we speak and think have a profound impact on our

experiences and outcomes in life.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *Home Is Not a Country* Safia Elhillo, 2022-02-22  
LONGLISTED FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD “Nothing short of magic.” —Elizabeth Acevedo, New York Times bestselling author of *The Poet X* From the acclaimed poet featured on Forbes Africa’s “30 Under 30” list, this powerful novel-in-verse captures one girl, caught between cultures, on an unexpected journey to face the ephemeral girl she might have been. Woven through with moments of lyrical beauty, this is a tender meditation on family, belonging, and home. my mother meant to name me for her favorite flower its sweetness garlands made for pretty girls i imagine her yasmeen bright & alive & i ache to have been born her instead Nima wishes she were someone else. She doesn’t feel understood by her mother, who grew up in a different land. She doesn’t feel accepted in her suburban town; yet somehow, she isn’t different enough to belong elsewhere. Her best friend, Haitham, is the only person with whom she can truly be herself. Until she can’t, and suddenly her only refuge is gone. As the ground is pulled out from under her, Nima must grapple with the phantom of a life not chosen—the name her parents meant to give her at birth—Yasmeen. But that other name, that other girl, might be more real than Nima knows. And the life Nima wishes were someone else’s. . . is one she will need to fight for with a fierceness she never knew she possessed.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Rose of Many Colors** Becky Plourde, 2005-05-01  
Kayleigh Morgan lives in a fairy-tale world knit together with close family, good friends, and a caring boyfriend. Shes bright, energetic, unconcerned about her future, and ignorant of the evils of the world. When an innocent walk to the store makes her the victim of a cruel rape, her seemingly perfect life begins to come unraveled. Her relationships are strained further when she learns that shes carrying a child she didnt expect and never wanted.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass** Meg Medina, 2013-03-26 Winner of the 2014 Pura Belpré Author Award In Meg Medina’s compelling new novel, a Latina teen is targeted by a bully at her new school — and must discover resources she never knew she had. One morning before school, some girl tells Piddy Sanchez that Yaqui Delgado hates her and wants to kick her ass. Piddy doesn’t even know who Yaqui is, never mind what she’s done to piss her off. Word is that Yaqui thinks Piddy is stuck-up, shakes her stuff when she walks, and isn’t Latin enough with her white skin, good grades, and no accent. And Yaqui isn’t kidding around, so Piddy better watch her back. At first Piddy is more concerned with trying to find out more about the father she’s never met and how to balance honors courses with her weekend job at the neighborhood hair salon. But as the harassment escalates, avoiding Yaqui and her gang starts to take over Piddy’s life. Is there any way for Piddy to survive without closing herself off or running away? In an all-too-realistic novel, Meg Medina portrays a sympathetic heroine who is forced to decide who she really is.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: The Weight of Our Sky** Hanna Alkaf, 2019-02-05  
A music loving teen with OCD does everything she can to find her way back to her mother during the historic race riots in 1969 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in this heart-pounding literary debut. Melati Ahmad looks like your typical movie-going, Beatles-obsessed sixteen-year-old. Unlike most other sixteen-year-olds though, Mel also believes that she harbors a djinn inside her, one who threatens her with horrific images of her mother’s death unless she adheres to an elaborate ritual of counting and tapping to keep him satisfied. A trip to the movies after school turns into a nightmare when the city erupts into violent race riots between the Chinese and the Malay. When gangsters come into the theater and hold movie-goers hostage, Mel, a Malay, is saved by a Chinese woman, but has to leave her best friend behind to die. On their journey through town, Mel sees for herself the devastation caused by the riots. In her village, a neighbor tells her that her mother, a nurse, was called in to help with the many bodies piling up at the hospital. Mel must survive on her own, with the help of a few kind strangers, until she finds her mother. But the djinn in her mind threatens her ability to cope.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Camping with Unicorns** Dana Simpson, 2020-03-23  
Life is never boring when your best friend is a unicorn! The latest installment in this bestselling

series is full of mischief, magic and adventure — as well as an important reminder to always stay true to yourself. School's out, so Phoebe and her unicorn best friend, Marigold Heavenly Nostrils, have the entire summer to play games, visit the pool, and even go camping. Unicorn horns are excellent utensils for roasting things over the campfire, too, even if Marigold prefers toasted apples to s'mores. While exploring in the woods, Phoebe and friends meet a unicorn named Alabaster, who uses a special video game console that's powered by plants. Throughout her summer adventures, Phoebe learns that being cool isn't all it's cracked up to be, and that it's much better to be your true self. It's all part of the unforgettable experience of *Camping with Unicorns*.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *The Pioneer Woman Cooks* Ree Drummond, 2010-06-01 Paula Deen meets Erma Bombeck in *The Pioneer Woman Cooks*, Ree Drummond's spirited, homespun cookbook. Drummond colorfully traces her transition from city life to ranch wife through recipes, photos, and pithy commentary based on her popular, award-winning blog, *Confessions of a Pioneer Woman*, and whips up delicious, satisfying meals for cowboys and cowgirls alike made from simple, widely available ingredients. *The Pioneer Woman Cooks*—and with these "Recipes from an Accidental Country Girl," she pleases the palate and tickles the funny bone at the same time.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Social Intercourse** Greg Howard, 2018-06-05 "A funny and satisfying love story [that] challenges simplistic preconceptions." —Publishers Weekly Beckett Gaines, a gay teen living in South Carolina, has his world turned upside-down by a jock in this laugh-out-loud novel that's Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda meets *The Parent Trap*. Beck: The Golden Girls-loving, out-and-proud choir nerd growing up in the "ass-crack of the Bible belt." Jax: The Golden Boy, star quarterback with a slick veneer facing uncomfortable truths about himself and his past. When Beck's emotionally fragile dad starts dating the recently single (and supposedly lesbian) mom of former bully Jaxon Parker, Beck is not having it. Jax isn't happy about the situation either, holding out hope that his moms will reunite and restore the only stable home he's ever known. Putting aside past differences, the boys plot to derail the budding romance between their parents at their conservative hometown's first-ever Rainbow Prom. Hearts will be broken, new romance will bloom, but nothing will go down the way Beck and Jax have planned. In his hilarious and provocative debut, Greg Howard examines the challenges of growing up different in a small southern town through the lens of colorful and unforgettable characters who stay with you long after the last drop of sweet tea.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter:** *Lima :: Limón* Natalie Scenters-Zapico, 2019-06-18 In her striking second collection, Natalie Scenters-Zapico sets her unflinching gaze once again on the borders of things. *Lima :: Limón* illuminates both the sweet and the sour of the immigrant experience, of life as a woman in the U.S. and Mexico, and of the politics of the present day. Drawing inspiration from the music of her childhood, her lyrical poems focus on the often-tested resilience of women. Scenters-Zapico writes heartbreakingly about domestic violence and its toxic duality of macho versus hembra, of masculinity versus femininity, and throws into harsh relief the all-too-normalized pain that women endure. Her sharp verse and intense anecdotes brand her poems into the reader; images like the Virgin Mary crying glass tears and a border fence that leaves never-healing scars intertwine as she stares down femicide and gang violence alike. Unflinching, Scenters-Zapico highlights the hardships and stigma immigrants face on both sides of the border, her desire to create change shining through in every line. *Lima :: Limón* is grounding and urgent, a collection that speaks out against violence and works toward healing.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: Good Bones** Maggie Smith, 2020-07-15 Featuring "Good Bones"—called "Official Poem of 2016" by the BBC/Public Radio International. Maggie Smith writes out of the experience of motherhood, inspired by watching her own children read the world like a book they've just opened, knowing nothing of the characters or plot. These are poems that stare down darkness while cultivating and sustaining possibility, poems that have a sense of moral gravitas, personal urgency, and the ability to address a larger world. Maggie Smith's previous books are *The Well Speaks of Its Own Poison* (Tupelo, 2015), *Lamp of the Body* (Red Hen, 2005), and three

prize-winning chapbooks: *Disasterology* (Dream Horse, 2016), *The List of Dangers* (Kent State, 2010), and *Nesting Dolls* (Pudding House, 2005). Her poem “Good Bones” has gone viral—tweeted and translated across the world, featured on the TV drama *Madam Secretary*, and called the “Official Poem of 2016” by the BBC/Public Radio International, earning news coverage in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Slate*, the *Guardian*, and beyond. Maggie Smith was named the 2016 Ohio Poet of the Year. “Smith’s voice is clear and unmistakable as she unravels the universe, pulls at a loose thread and lets the whole thing tumble around us, sometimes beautiful, sometimes achingly hard. Truthful, tender, and unafraid of the dark....”—Ada Limón “As if lost in the soft, bewitching world of fairy tale, Maggie Smith conceives and brings forth this metaphysical Baedeker, a guidebook for mother and child to lead each other into a hopeful present. Smith’s poems affirm the virtues of humanity: compassion, empathy, and the ability to comfort one another when darkness falls. ‘There is a light,’ she tells us, ‘and the light is good.’”—D. A. Powell “Good Bones is an extraordinary book. Maggie Smith demonstrates what happens when an abundance of heart and intelligence meets the hands of a master craftsman, reminding us again that the world, for a true poet, is blessedly inexhaustible.”—Erin Belieu

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: For Brown Girls with Sharp Edges and Tender Hearts** Prisca Dorcas Mojica Rodríguez, 2021-09-07 The founder of Latina Rebels and a “Latinx Activist You Should Know” (Teen Vogue) arms women of color with the tools and knowledge they need to find success on their own terms For generations, Brown girls have had to push against powerful forces of sexism, racism, and classism, often feeling alone in the struggle. By founding Latina Rebels, Prisca Dorcas Mojica Rodríguez has created a community to help women fight together. In *For Brown Girls with Sharp Edges and Tender Hearts*, she offers wisdom and a liberating path forward for all women of color. She crafts powerful ways to address the challenges Brown girls face, from imposter syndrome to colorism. She empowers women to decolonize their worldview, and defy “universal” white narratives, by telling their own stories. Her book guides women of color toward a sense of pride and sisterhood and offers essential tools to energize a movement. May it spark a fire within you.

**i am not your perfect mexican daughter: The Inexplicable Logic of My Life** Benjamin Alire Saenz, 2017-03-07 A “mesmerizing, poetic exploration of family, friendship, love and loss” by the author of *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* (The New York Times Book Review). Sal used to know his place with his adoptive gay father, their loving Mexican American family, and his best friend, Samantha. But it’s senior year, and suddenly Sal is throwing punches, questioning everything, and realizing he no longer knows himself. If Sal’s not who he thought he was, who is he? From the Printz Honor-winning author, this is “another stellar, gentle look into the emotional lives of teens on the cusp of adulthood” (Kirkus Reviews, starred review). “The themes of love, social responsibility, death, and redemption are expertly intertwined with well-developed characters and a compelling story line. This complex, sensitive, and profoundly moving book is beautifully written and will stay with readers.” —School Library Journal (starred review “Sal is one of those characters you wonder about after the book is closed.” —Booklist “What the world needs now is a book like this one. . . . Read it.” —Bill Konigsberg, Stonewall Award-winning author of *Openly Straight*

Back to Home: <https://fc1.getfilecloud.com>