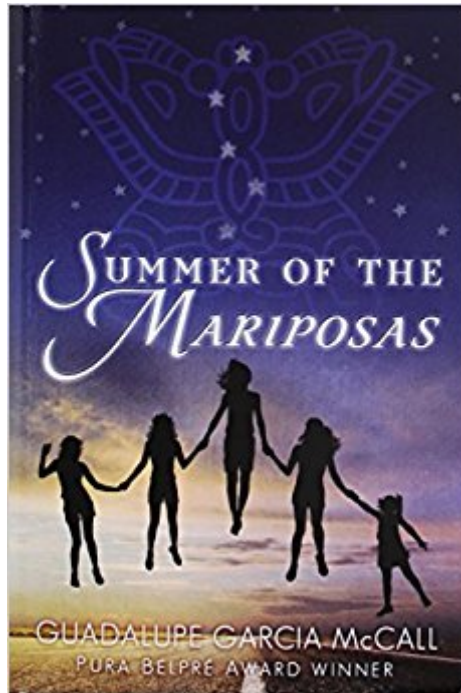




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Summer Of The Mariposas



Synopsis

When Odilia and her four sisters find a dead body in the swimming hole, they embark on a hero's journey to return the dead man to his family in Mexico. But returning home to Texas turns into an odyssey that would rival Homer's original tale. With the supernatural aid of ghostly La Llorona via a magical earring, Odilia and her little sisters travel a road of tribulation to their long-lost grandmother's house. Along the way, they must outsmart a witch and her Evil Trinity: a wily warlock, a coven of vicious half-human barn owls, and a bloodthirsty livestock-hunting chupacabras. Can these fantastic trials prepare Odilia and her sisters for what happens when they face their final test, returning home to the real world, where goddesses and ghosts can no longer help them? *Summer of the Mariposas* is not just a magical Mexican American retelling of *The Odyssey*, it is a celebration of sisterhood and maternal love. Check out the *Vamos a Leer Educator's Guide for Summer of the Mariposas* created by the staff at the Latin American & Iberian Institute (LAI). Read the first three chapters of *Summer of the Mariposas* online here. Check out *Why Culturally Responsive Literature Matters in Middle and High School for Summer of the Mariposas*. Learn more about Guadalupe Garcia McCall in *Guadalupe García McCall: A Storyteller of Cultures and Odysseys* by R. Joseph Rodríguez and KaaVonia Hinton in *SIGNAL* journal, the Journal of the International Reading Association's Special Interest Group: Network on Adolescent Literature.

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Customer Reviews

After Odilia, 16, and her four younger sisters find a body floating in the river, they drive across the Mexican border to return the drowned man home. Their real mission, though, is to get to

Abuelita's house and find their father, who abandoned Mamá and his daughters a year earlier. In true mythic style, the girls encounter heroes and monsters on their perilous, sometimes gruesome journey, including attacks by a coven of winged witches and creatures from Mexican folklore. After falling under the enchantment of an evil sorceress and an ancient fortune-teller, they are saved by Llorona, who looks monstrous but is the protector of the Azteca people and shows the five sisters their way. Just as compelling as the vivid fantasy is the realism, especially the standoffs and reconciliations among the caring sisters, and the final shocking truth about their father and themselves is far from a sweet resolution. Readers will be drawn by the contemporary family drama and the magic, and they'll appreciate the author's note that discusses the story's roots in Mexican folklore and *The Odyssey*. Grades 7-12. --Hazel Rochman --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

was born in Mexico and moved to Texas as a young girl, keeping close ties with family on both sides of the border. Trained in Theater Arts and English, she now teaches English/Language Arts at a junior high school. Her poems for adults have appeared in more than twenty literary journals. McCall is an up-and-coming talent whose debut YA novel, *Under the Mesquite*, won the Pura Belpré Award and was named a Morris Award finalist. McCall lives with her husband and their three sons in the San Antonio, Texas, area. You can find her on the Web at guadalupegarciamccall.com.

Not short of amazing! It's been a while since I've devoured a book in days... but I couldn't help it all the characters & their plight sucked me in from the beginning! It was a page turner with heartwarming & suspenseful moments throughout. Loved it!

Great readings! Loved the cultural atmosphere and the humor that author was able to present. La Llorona is presented in totally new way, she is the mother and the helper of the lost *sinco herminitas*. She was my favorite character in the book.

was bought for someone

I really loved this book. It taught me a few Spanish phrases and kept me excited throughout. The sisters are interesting characters as well as the other beings that really keep the story moving. I liked the connections to the *Odyssey*. I am in college and had to read this for one of my classes in a

group and our feelings were mixed, but the book is worth reading.

After a while, I just couldn't take this book seriously, but that actually made me like it. I wasn't too familiar with the mythological characters that were popping up, but the plot kept getting more and more ridiculous to the point where I was laughing. It was a fun read!

A great idea for teen fiction, however, there were more than a few places in the story that did not add up.

This book is part of a reading program in Indiana called the "young hoosier book awards". Kids must read at least 5 of them and they get to vote for their favorite book.

A modern Mexican-American Odyssey, Summer of the Mariposas is a great read for young readers which deviates from the traditional narrative and provides a culturally relevant text.

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