

The Jacket By Gary Soto Analysis

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Neighborhood Odes DigiCat

To get the "ratoncitos," little mice, who have moved into the barrio to come to his house, Chato the cat prepares all kinds of good food: fajitas, frijoles, salsa, enchiladas, and more.

The Pool Party Yearling

Discusses the life and work of the Mexican American author, including his writing process, themes, and a critical discussion of his books.

Twerp Graymalkin Media

Fourteen-year-old Lincoln Mendoza, an aspiring basketball player, must come to terms with his divided loyalties when he moves from the Hispanic inner city to a white suburban neighborhood.

Tree Of Cranes Random House Books for Young Readers

A hip, funny, Latino rendition of Grease, this play features three cool muchachos who come to the aid of Martin, a chicano nerd who loves a beautiful, popular girl, Ceci, from afar. With the help of his friends, Martin changes his miage and impresses Ceci and her friends, without letting on who he is. This is a problem for Ceci, because, in the meantime, she's transformed herself into a Chicana nert to win the heard of her secret love--Martin. A totally modern, totally cool tale of teenage romance.

Cesar Chavez Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

A collection of short stories about Mexican American youth growing up in California's Central Valley.

A Fire in My Hands McFarland

Maya, the flower girl, describes a Mexican American wedding through snapshots of the day's events, beginning with the procession to the altar and ending with her sleeping after the dance.

Accidental Love Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

An expanded version of A Fire in My Hands, Gary's Soto's acclaimed collection of poems about growing up Latino, now in paperback.

Petty Crimes Graywolf Press

After unexpectedly falling in love with a "nerdy" boy, fourteen-year-old Yolanda works to change her life by transferring to another school, altering some of her behavior, and losing weight. Reprint.

If the Shoe Fits HMH

A collection of thirteen short stories about the everyday lives of Mexican American young people in California's Central Valley.

The Jacket Laurel Leaf

One of the best-selling young adult books of all time, written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Paul Zindel. John Conlan is nicknamed "The Bathroom Bomber" after setting off firecrackers in the boys' bathroom 23 times without ever getting caught. John and his best friend, Lorraine, can never please their parents, and school is a chore. To pass the time, they play pranks on unsuspecting people and it's during one of these pranks that they meet the "Pigman." In spite of themselves, John and Lorraine soon get caught up in Mr. Pignati's zest for life. In fact, they become so involved that they begin to destroy the only corner of the world that has ever mattered to them. Can they stop before it's too late?

Paul's Case Penguin

FEATURING A BRAND NEW STORY "What's special about 'Cat Person,' and the rest of the stories in *You Know You Want This*, is the author's expert control of language, character, story—her ability to write stories that feel told, and yet so unpretentious and accessible that we think they must be true." —The New York Times Book Review "Kristen Roupenian isn't just an uncannily great writer, she also knows things about the human psyche—things that I always supposed I would learn at some point, but never did... The world has made a lot more sense since reading this book." —Miranda July, New York Times bestselling author "If you think you know what this collection will be like, you're wrong. These stories are sharp and perverse, dark and bizarre, unrelenting and utterly bananas. I love them so, so much." —Carmen Maria Machado, National Book Award Finalist and author of *Her Body and Other Parties* A compulsively readable collection of short stories that explore the complex—and often darkly funny—connections between gender, sex, and power across genres. Previously published as *You Know You Want This*, "Cat Person" and *Other Stories* brilliantly explores the ways in which women are horrifying as much as it captures the horrors that are done to them. Among its pages are a couple who becomes obsessed with their friend hearing them have sex, then seeing them have sex...until they can't have sex without him; a ten-year-old whose birthday party takes a sinister turn when she wishes for "something mean"; a woman who finds a book of spells half hidden at the library and summons her heart's desire: a nameless, naked man; and a self-proclaimed "biter" who dreams of sneaking up behind and sinking her teeth into a green-eyed, long-haired, pink-cheeked coworker. Spanning a range of genres and topics—from the mundane to the murderous and supernatural—these are stories about sex and punishment, guilt and anger, the pleasure and terror of inflicting and experiencing pain. These stories fascinate and repel, revolt and arouse, scare and delight in equal measure. And, as a collection, they point a finger at you, daring you to feel uncomfortable—or worse, understood—as if to say, "You want this, right? You know you want this."

Nerdlandia Penguin

Standing at the podium, Victor Villaseñor looked at the group of educators amassed before him, and his mind flooded with childhood memories of humiliation and abuse at the hands of his teachers. He became enraged. With a pounding heart, he began to speak of these incidents. When he was through, to his great disbelief he received a standing ovation. Many in the audience could not contain their own tears. So begins the passionate, touching memoir of Victor Villaseñor.

Highly gifted and imaginative as a child, Villaseñor coped with an untreated learning disability (he was finally diagnosed, at the age of forty-four, with extreme dyslexia) and the frustration of growing up Latino in an English-only American school in the 1940s. Despite teachers who beat him because he could not speak English, Villaseñor clung to his dream of one day becoming a writer. He is now considered one of the premier writers of our time.

Taking Sides Clarion Books

When nineteen-year-old Eddie drops out of college, he struggles to find a place for himself as a Mexican American living in a violence-infested neighborhood of Fresno, California.

Burro Genius Perfection Learning

A senior at East Fresno High School lives on as a ghost after his brutal murder in the restroom of

a club where he had gone to dance.

Baseball in April and Other Stories Penguin

¡Viva la causa! ¡Viva César Chávez! Up and down the San Joaquin Valley of California, and across the country, people chanted these words. Cesar Chavez, a migrant worker himself, was helping Mexican Americans work together for better wages, for better working conditions, for better lives. No one thought they could win against the rich and powerful growers. But Cesar was out to prove them wrong -- and that he did.

The Whispering Trees Paw Prints

The Chicano writer presents forty-eight short essays and memoir pieces set in his hometown of Fresno, California, and in the San Francisco Bay area.

Big Bushy Mustache Laurel Leaf

The *Whispering Trees*, award winning writer Abubakar Adam Ibrahim's debut collection of short stories, employs nuance, subtle drama and deadpan humour to capture colourful Nigerian lives. There's Kyakkyawa, who sparks forbidden thoughts in her father and has a bit of angels and witches in her; there's the mysterious butterfly girl who just might be an incarnation of Ohikwo's long dead mother; there's also a flummoxed white woman caught between two Nigerian brothers and an unfolding scandal, and, of course, the two medicine men of Mazade who battle against their egos, an epidemic and an enigmatic witch.

Refresh, Refresh Perfection Learning

What do Gaby Lopez, Michael Robles, and Cynthia Rodriguez have in common? These three kids join other teens and tweens in Gary Soto's new short story collection, in which the hard-knock facts of growing up are captured with humor and poignance. Filled with annoying siblings, difficult parents, and first loves, these stories are a masterful reminder of why adolescence is one of the most frustrating and fascinating times of life.

Live to Tell Bantam

Twenty-one poems about growing up in an Hispanic neighborhood, highlighting the delights in such everyday items as sprinklers, the park, the library, and pomegranates.

"Cat Person" and Other Stories Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

A treasury of fifty sensational read-aloud pieces for young adults. From Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass to Maniac Magee, sci-fi to op-ed, "Casey at the Bat" to a moving true story about the reunion of two Holocaust survivors, this wonderfully diverse collection of excerpts from newspapers, magazines, and books has been created by Jim Trelease especially to turn young people on to the many pleasures of reading. Here are thought-provoking columns from Mike Royko and Pete Hamill; excerpts from classics like *To Kill a Mockingbird* and "Rikki-tikki-tavi"; autobiographical sketches by Maya Angelou, Moss Hart, and others, highlighting the importance of reading in their lives; and much more. With selections representing many different cultures, genres, writing styles, and interests, *Read All About It!* is a wonderful introduction to the riches of literature and to a lifetime of reading.