

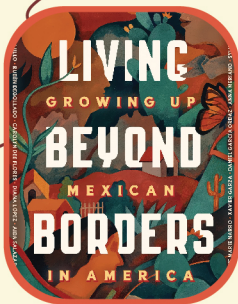
BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS BY MARCUS & ASHLYN

Marcus' Favorite



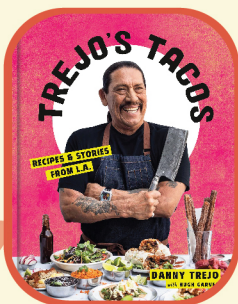
TITLE: BLOOM
AUTHOR: KEVIN PANETTA & SAVANNA GANUCHEAU

If your teenager self ever fantasied about starting your own band or opening up your own bakery then Bloom is for you! The authors marry music and baking really well in this young adult graphic novel. Plus, there's a bread recipe provided by the authors which is featured in the book's bakery! This really brought the book to life for me.



TITLE: LIVING BEYOND BORDERS: GROWING UP MEXICAN IN AMERICA
AUTHOR: LONGORIA MARGARITA

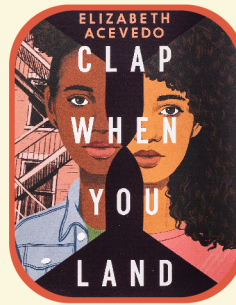
This anthology shares the experiences of Mexican Americans navigating their heritage while living in the U.S. The book resonated with me because as a young Mexican-American growing up in L.A., I was plagued with thoughts of not feeling "Mexican" enough because I didn't speak Spanish. Alex Temblador's chapter titled "Is Half Mexican-American, Mexican enough?" explores his struggles with being a mixed child, not speaking Spanish, and being told he wasn't good enough.



TITLE: TREJO'S TACOS RECIPES & STORIES FROM L.A.
AUTHOR: DANNY TREJO

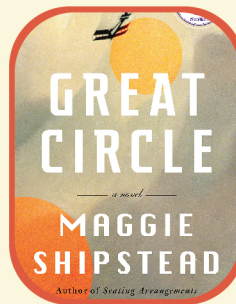
Trejo's Tacos is the perfect cookbook if you're craving a mix of traditional and contemporary Mexican cuisine. Make your favorite tacos and try Trejo's homemade crema to top them off. Plus, Trejo's offers gluten free and vegan options all with the same great taste Mexican cuisine is known for. His salsa roja recipe is my favorite. It's a great way to add flavor to any dish!

Ashlyn's Favorite



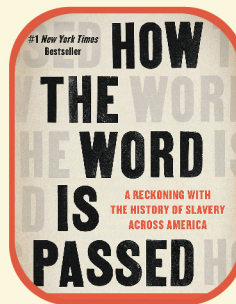
TITLE: CLAP WHEN YOU LAND
AUTHOR: ELIZABETH ACEVEDO

As we're all trying to navigate the "new normal" of life during a global pandemic, Clap When You Land centers around how a traumatic event reshapes the way we manage and change. New York Times bestselling author Elizabeth Acevedo's gorgeous and engaging poetry tells the story of two sisters rebuilding life after their father's tragic death; they cope with the devastating and unexpected loss while also coming together to shape a new reality without him. Recommended for National Hispanic Heritage Month!



TITLE: GREAT CIRCLE
AUTHOR: MAGGIE SHIPSTEAD

One of my favorite fiction books of the year, Great Circle is the vivid story of Marian Graves, a young woman striving to become one of the world's best pilots in the early 1940s. Never comfortable on the ground or as society defines her, Marian's flying aspirations also help her fully realize all aspects of her identity. Mirroring Marian's story is that of Hadley, an actress playing the role of Marian in the biopic of her life, during a time of upheaval in her career. These parallel stories of women finding their own freedom is an epic read for anyone with that feeling of wanderlust and also working to smash the barriers holding us back from embracing our true selves.



TITLE: HOW THE WORD IS PASSED
AUTHOR: CLINT SMITH

Recently nominated for the National Book Award, Clint Smith's combination of research and storytelling in How the Word is Passed unpacks the history and present representation of American slavery in eight significant locations. As both a poet and a scholar, Smith uses first hand research and artifacts to carefully and intentionally tell these stories, their historical context, and how they still impact us today. As a political science nerd, this nonfic book that reads like fiction is one of my favorites of the year.