



You Don't Have a Clue *Latino Mystery Stories for Teens*

Edited by Sarah Cortez

The teens featured in these stories deal with situations typical to all young adults, including attraction to the opposite sex—or to the same sex, in one story—and first sexual encounters, problems with family and friends, academic and personal aspirations.

But they also deal with every kind of thrilling situation imaginable, from missing girls to kidnappings and dismembered bodies. A young girl finds herself living with her “family,” though she has no memory of them or who they claim she is. A geek at a prestigious public high school finds himself working with his *very* attractive arch-rival to solve the mystery of a severed, bloody arm that appears inexplicably in his locker. And Mike’s life sucks when his parents split up, but it gets worse when his best friend is abducted by a thug shot by Mike’s dad, a police officer. There’s something for everyone here, with aliens, ghosts and even an Aztec god making appearances in these stories.

Set in schools and communities from New York City to Venice Beach, California, the protagonists reflect the breadth and diversity of the Latino authors included in this innovative collection. Published authors such as Mario Acevedo, Alicia Gaspar de Alba, Diana López and Sergio Troncoso appear alongside less well-known authors who deserve more recognition. With an introduction by young adult literature expert Dr. James Blasingame of Arizona State University, this collection is sure to keep readers on the edge of their seats until the last page is turned.

SARAH CORTEZ is a poet, educator, and law enforcement officer. She is the author of a poetry collection, *How to Undress a Cop* (Arte Público Press, 2000), which won the PEN Texas Literary Award in Poetry, and the editor of *Windows into My World: Latino Youth Write Their Lives* (Pinata Books, 2007), winner of a 2008 Skipping Stones Honor Award; *Hit List: The Best of Latino Mystery* (Arte Público Press, 2009) and *Indian Country Noir* (Akashic Books, 2010). She lives and works in Houston, Texas.

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