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FROM THE AUTHOR OF BOLÍVAR AND SILVER, SWORD, AND STONE

# LATINOLAND

### A Portrait of America's Largest and Least Understood Minority Marie Arana

"A significant, engaging read... Arana has a fascinating, complex, and deeply personal story to tell, and she narrates it with abundant verve and intelligence."

—Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review

"The celebrated Arana unpacks one of the most contentious demographic categories in the U.S. by examining race, religion, politics, and professions among Latinos.... Arana's keen grasp of history and incisive writing brings each chapter to life."

—Booklist, Starred Review

"As a Latina/Latinx/Hispanic/Dominican-America who has lived through six decades of identity iterations and labels on USA soil, I think I know myself and my story pretty well, but Marie Arana's magisterial LATINOLAND has enlarged my understanding, not just of myself, but of so many of us included under the one identity umbrella of Latinos. Comprehensive, thoroughly researched, balanced, generous and penetrating, LATINOLAND is destined to become the text we all turn and return to in understanding not just this country but our hemisphere."

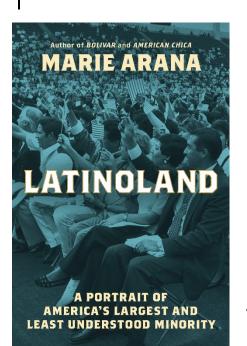
—Julia Alvarez, author of How the García Girls Lost Their Accents and Afterlife

"In a just world Marie Arana would be everyone's favorite writer and her monumental LATINOLAND would be everyone's book of the year. Arana has achieved the impossible - she has produced a searching, moving portrait of one of the most misunderstood and singularly important communities in our country. LATINOLAND is indispensable, unforgettable. A work of prophecy, sympathy and courage."

-Junot Díaz, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao

"Marie Arana has accomplished the herculean task of defining us as a community, meticulously separating the threads that unite as well as divide us. LATINOLAND is a fascinating introduction for those who need to know us. And—surprise—an especially illuminating read for those of us who thought we knew ourselves."

—Sandra Cisneros, author of *The House on Mango Street* and *Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories* 



"Marie Arana does something beautiful in this book: she captures all the strands that form the fabric of the one-fifth of our nation she calls LATINOLAND. This burgeoning population contains many different narratives, as she shows, but there are a number of commonalities. Her book not only helps explain LATINOLAND but also America itself."

-Walter Isaacson, author of Elon Musk

"Only Marie Arana could hold this infinitely complex, endlessly shifting subject in her mind, and then write a book that explains it all in language that is at the same time dazzlingly vibrant and surgically precise. LATINOLAND doesn't just speak, it sings."

-Candice Millard, author of River of the Gods and The River of Doubt

"Unfolding across four hemispheres and dozens of nations, Marie Arana's new book is a sweeping, comprehensive, and impassioned introduction to the centuries of history and activism that have given us the term 'Latino.'"

-Héctor Tobar, author of Our Migrant Souls

"To tell the truth, we have no name. We never did," writes Marie Arana, "We were simply tribes of this hemisphere, inheritors of a natural world... We gave ourselves a multitude of names. Thousands of years later, when we were invaded and conquered, first by Spain, then by a battery of occupiers and usurpers, we became colonies to power—united by the boot, the sword, the crown, the cross, and the Spanish language."

In LATINOLAND: A Portrait of America's Largest and Least Understood Minority (Simon & Schuster; February 20, 2024), the award-winning author and historian Marie Arana offers readers a sweeping, personal portrait of the largest racial and ethnic minority in the United States.

"Latinos" does not represent a single group – they were once some of the earliest residents of what is now known as the US, and they are some of the country's newest arrivals; they are White, Black, Indigenous, and Asian; they are domestic workers, day laborers, successful artists, corporate CEOs, and US senators. Once overwhelmingly Catholic, they are now increasingly Protestant and Evangelical. Once faithfully Democratic, they now vote Republican in growing numbers. In **LATINOLAND**, Arana tells stories that often go ignored, encapsulating Latinos' "grand diversity that defies any one label."

Based on prodigious research, hundreds of interviews, and Marie Arana's own life experience as a Peruvian American, **LATINOLAND** unabashedly celebrates the resilience, character, diversity, and little known history of our largest and fastest-growing minority. The author of several award-winning books – *American Chica*, *Bolivar*, and most recently, *Silver*, *Sword*, *and Stone* – Arana is a beloved member of the literary community, serving as the inaugural Literary Director of the Library of Congress and previously as the Books Editor of the Washington Post. Arana has devoted her career to exploring Latinos' origins, identities, and histories in the United States, and is uniquely qualified to tell this massive story.

#### **About the Author:**

Marie Arana was born in Lima, Peru. The former editor in chief of Washington Post Book World, she is the author of the memoir American Chica, a finalist for the National Book Award; two novels, Cellophane and Lima Nights; the prizewinning biography Bolivar; a narrative history of Latin America, Silver, Sword, and Stone; and The Writing Life, a collection from her well-known column for The Washington Post. She is the inaugural Literary Director of the Library of Congress and lives in Washington, DC, and Lima, Peru. Visit her at mariearana.net.

#### **About the Book:**

Title: LATINOLAND

Subtitle: A Portrait of America's Largest and

Least Understood Minority
Author: Marie Arana
Publisher: Simon & Schuster
Publication Date: February 20, 2024

Format: Hardcover

HC Price: \$32.50 | HC ISBN: 9781982184896 eBook price: \$16.99 | eBook ISBN: 9781982184919 eAudio price: \$29.99 | eAudio ISBN: 9781797171845



## Feb. 21 Politics & Prose March 4 Philadelphia Free Library

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