

Jose Antonio Villarreal Pocho

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this remarkable novel is set in California's lush Santa Clara Valley and tells for the first time the story of the pocho Mexican California American pocho is especially about Richard Rubio the youngest son of a Mexican migrant worker a sensitive questioning boy whose coming of age was hastened by the poverty and primitive surroundings into which he was born it tells of Richard's

bewildered conflicting feelings toward his mexican heritage his bitter experiences in a wealthy non mexican society his rude awakening to the pleasures and perils of sex his frustrated hunger for knowledge and his aimless rebellion against everything that his name and background stood for pocho is a dramatic novel which introduces a new california author inside front flap of bookcover

jose antonio villarreal illuminates here the world of pochos americans whose parents come to the united states from mexico set in depression era california the novel focuses on richard a young pocho who experiences the intense conflict between loyalty to the traditions of his family s past and attraction to new ideas richard s struggle to achieve adulthood as a young man influenced by two worlds reveals both the uniqueness of the mexican american experiences and its common ties with the struggles of all americans whatever their past

fictionalized account of a mexican family s experiences in the united states

this book blends biography history and literary criticism in its analysis of pocho 1959 jos® antonio villarreal s evocative and semi autobiographical novel about richard rubio a mexican american youth raised in a pastoral community in central california where people self identified according to race ethnicity or religious affiliation richard is the son of an indigenous maya mother and a mexican fair skin father who fought in the 1910 mexican revolution as a cavalryman placing richard outside the town s imposed and regulated ethnic identities in spite of his varied ancestry his american birth and his probing intelligence richard s indigenous appearance casts him as a social outsider pocho was written over a nine year period of vigorous creativity and with villarreal s power of recall and imagination at their prime in writing his inaugural novel villarreal drew inspiration from modern narratives paintings novels films and from ancient greek tragedy to create a mexican american version of its classical drama ancestor this book s critical approach to villarreal s literary work is intelligibly written so as to be of access to a broad and all inclusive readership and institutions from college and university professors public libraries and the general reader to students of us mexican american and world literatures

seminar paper from the year 2006 in the subject english language and literature studies literature grade 2 3 university of freiburg course ethnic novel in american literature language english abstract index i introduction 1 ii pocho 2 1 background to the novel 2 2 2 territorial obscurity 2 2 3 education 4 2 4 richard s relation to his parents 4 2 5 the dissolution of the family 6 iii mona in the promised land 9 3 1 background to the novel 9 3 2 mona s relation to her parents 9 iv conclusion 13 v bibliography i introduction this term paper deals with two pieces of american immigrant literature of different culture political background time and setting the novel pocho by jose antonio villareal published in 1959 was the first chicoano novel it was written primarily for an anglo american audience in order to explain the life of a pocho villareal wrote the novel without any guideline as no one had entered this political vacuum before 1 the novel mona in the promised land by the chinese american writer gish jen published in 1996 introduces us into the multicultural life of the predominantly jewish new york suburb of scarhill in 1968 i will show in this term paper that despite the many differences in the two novels there also are many commonalities and parallels what life and the problems between the two protagonists and their parents concerns i will furthermore try to present in detail that the familiar sorrow in both novels is closely connected with the complex conflict of generations within two cultures as well as the protagonist s search for identity that results from this in the first part i will analyze richard s changing relationship towards his parents in the second part i will show that also mona despite her completely different background and environment faces similar problems which finally lead to the break up with predominantly her mother furthermore i will expose that mona and richard share common interests and ways a

covers numerous ethnic writers and their works all major american ethnicities are covered african american asian american jewish american hispanic latino and native american

consists of questions and answers about latinos revealing the common history which unites them while also showing how they differ depending upon their country of origin

ibero american letters in a comparative perspective is an analysis of various aspects of ibero american letters and comprises of the proceedings of the tenth annual comparative literature symposium held on 26 to 28 january 1977

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