

# Paradise In Ashes A Guatemalan Journey Of Courage

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an account of the violence and repression that defined the murderous guatemalan civil  
war of the 1980s manz an anthropologist spent over two decades studying the mayan  
highlands and remote rain forests of guatemala in a political portrait of santa maría  
tzejá where highland maya peasants seeking land settled in the 1970s manz describes  
these villagers plight as their isolated lush but deceptive paradise became one of the  
centers of the war convulsing the entire country after their village was viciously sacked

in 1982 desperate survivors fled into the surrounding rain forest and eventually to mexico and some even further to the united states while others stayed behind and fell into the military s hands manz follows their flight and eventual return to santa maría tzejá where they sought to rebuild their village and their lives from publisher description

guatemala draws some half million tourists each year whose brief visits to the ruins of ancient maya cities and contemporary highland maya villages may give them only a partial and folkloric understanding of guatemalan society in this vividly written travel narrative stephen connely benz explores the guatemala that casual travelers miss using his encounters with ordinary guatemalans at the mall on the streets at soccer games and even at the funeral of massacre victims to illuminate the social reality of guatemala today the book opens with an extended section on the capital guatemala city and then moves out to the more remote parts of the country where the guatemalan indians predominate benz offers us a series of intelligent and sometimes humorous perspectives on guatemala s political history and the role of the military the country s environmental degradation the influence of foreign missionaries and especially the impact of the united states on guatemala from governmental programs to fast food franchises

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in this study of guatemalan peasants rebuilding their lives after years in the crossfire anthropologist kristi anne stølen examines the dynamics of violence survival strategies in situations of extreme violence and social reconstruction in its aftermath

democratic institutions in guatemala theory and practice advances knowledge about guatemala s democracy by embedding the country in recent conceptual and theoretical work in comparative politics this volume sheds light upon the stubborn realities and challenges afflicting guatemalan democracy during the post peace accords era each chapter delves into the main democratic institutions informal practices and players

shaping the operative political game elections congress the judiciary the high courts presidentialism criminal actors political parties the political left and political right and the peak business association cacif this book seeks to escape the perils of parochialism by placing the country within larger scholarly debates and paradigms

each book in the journey between two worlds series shares the difficult and often dangerous life of a refugee family in their native country and describes their subsequent journey to the united states

for decades latin america has been plagued by civil wars dictatorships torture legacies of colonialism racism and inequality the region has also experienced dramatic if uneven human rights improvements shedding light on the politics of transformation the accounts of how latin america s people have dealt with the persistent threats to their fundamental rights offer lessons for people around the world human rights in latin america provides a comprehensive introduction to the human rights issues facing an area that constitutes more than half of the western hemisphere this second edition brings together regional case studies and thematic chapters to explore cutting edge issues and developments in the field from historical accounts of abuse to successful transnational campaigns and legal battles human rights in latin america explores the dynamics underlying a vast range of human rights initiatives in addition to surveying the roles of the united states relatives of the disappeared and truth commissions sonia cardenas and rebecca root cover newer ground in addressing the colonial and ideological underpinnings of human rights abuses emerging campaigns for gender and sexuality rights and regional dynamics relating to the international criminal court engagingly written and fully illustrated human rights in latin america fills an important niche among human rights and latin american textbooks ample supplementary resources including discussion questions interdisciplinary reading lists filmographies online resources internship opportunities and instructor assignments make this an especially valuable text for use in human rights courses

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