



## The Hummingbird's Daughter

By Luis Alberto Urrea

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## **The Hummingbird's Daughter** By Luis Alberto Urrea Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. "Her powers were growing now, like her body. No one knew where the strange things came from. Some said they sprang up in her after the desert sojourn with Huila. Some said they came from somewhere else, some deep inner landscape no one could touch. That they had been there all along." Teresita, the real-life "Saint of Cabora," was born in 1873 to a 14-year-old Indian girl impregnated by a prosperous rancher near the Mexico-Arizona border. Raised in dire poverty by an abusive aunt, the little girl still learned music and horsemanship and even to read: she was a "chosen child," showing such remarkable healing powers that the ranch's medicine woman took her as an apprentice, and the rancher, Don Tomás Urrea, took her—barefoot and dirty—into his own household. At 16, Teresita was raped, lapsed into a coma and apparently died. At her wake, though, she sat up in her coffin and declared that it was not for her. Pilgrims came to her by the thousands, even as the Catholic Church denounced her as a heretic; she was also accused of fomenting an Indian uprising against Mexico and, at 19, sentenced to be shot. From this already tumultuous tale of his great-aunt Teresa, American Book Award–winner Urrea (*The Devil's Highway*) fashions an astonishing novel set against the guerrilla violence of post–Civil War southwestern border disputes and incipient revolution. His brilliant prose is saturated with the cadences and insights of Latin-American magical realism and tempered by his exacting reporter's eye and extensive historical investigation. The book is wildly romantic, sweeping in its effect, employing the techniques of Catholic hagiography, Western fairy tale, Indian legend and everyday family folklore against the gritty historical realities of war, poverty, prejudice, lawlessness, torture and genocide. Urrea effortlessly links Teresita's supernatural calling to the turmoil of the times, concealing substantial intellectual content behind effervescent storytelling and considerable humor.

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From [The New Yorker](#)

Twenty years in the making, Urrea's epic novel recounts the true story of his great-aunt Teresita. In 1873, amid the political turbulence of General Porfirio Díaz's Mexican republic, Teresita is born to a fourteen-year-old Indian girl, "mounted and forgotten" by her white master. Don Tomás Urrea later takes his illegitimate daughter into his home, where she learns to bathe every week and read "Las Hermanas Brontë." But Teresita also continues a folk education as a curandera, discovering healing powers and a mystical relationship with God. Indian pilgrims swarm to the Urrea ranch, where "St. Teresita," a mestiza Joan of Arc, kindles in them a powerful faith in God and a perilous hunger for revolution. The novel brings to life not only the deeply pious figure whom Díaz himself dubbed "the Most Dangerous Girl in Mexico" but also the blood-soaked landscape of pre-revolutionary Mexico.

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Everyone raves about the grand, exquisitely detailed storytelling of the first-time novelist, though Urrea has written 10 previous books of nonfiction (see *The Devil's Highway*, HHHH July/Aug 2004). *The Hummingbird's Daughter* is a history lesson that follows the brewing rebellion in 1889 against a longtime Mexican dictator. Urrea meticulously captures day-to-day life among the poor farmers and their populist beliefs in their saint. Of course there's also humor, heartbreak, torture, and perhaps a few too many descriptions. To sum up, we'll leave it to *The New York Times*: "These 500 pages—though they could have been fewer—slip past effortlessly."

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## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **James Pierce:**

The book *The Hummingbird's Daughter* give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You should use to make your capable far more increase. Book can for being your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem along with your subject. If you can make looking at a book *The Hummingbird's Daughter* for being your habit, you can get considerably more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. You are able to know everything if you like open up and read a book *The Hummingbird's Daughter*. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science book or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this publication?

#### **Deborah Knight:**

Nowadays reading books be than want or need but also get a life style. This reading routine give you lot of advantages. The benefits you got of course the knowledge even the information inside the book that will improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of book you read, if you want have more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want sense happy read one using theme for entertaining like comic or novel. The actual *The Hummingbird's Daughter* is kind of e-book which is giving the reader capricious experience.

#### **Michael Beebe:**

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#### **Jose Garcia:**

In this era globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make a professional understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of referrals to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You can see that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. Typically the book that recommended for you is *The Hummingbird's Daughter* this publication consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. This book was represented how can the world has grown up. The words styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. The particular writer made some analysis when he makes this book. Here is why this book ideal all of you.

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