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The Cambridge Companion to the Latin American Novel

The diverse countries of Latin America have produced a lively and ever-evolving tradition of novels, many of which are read in translation all over the world. This Companion offers a broad overview of the novel's history and analyzes in depth several representative works by, for example, Gabriel García Márquez, Machado de Assis, Isabel Allende and Mario Vargas Llosa. The essays collected here offer several entryways into the understanding and appreciation of the Latin American novel in Spanish-speaking America and Brazil. The volume conveys a real sense of the heterogeneity of Latin American literature, highlighting regions whose cultural and geopolitical particularities are often overlooked. Indispensable to students of Latin American or Hispanic studies and those interested in comparative literature and the development of the novel as genre, the Companion features a comprehensive bibliography and chronology and concludes with an essay about the success of Latin American novels in translation.

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THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO THE LATIN AMERICAN NOVEL

EDITED BY

EFRAÍN KRISTAL

University of California, Los Angeles

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521532198

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First published 2005

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN-10 0 521 82533 4 hardback
ISBN-10 0 521 53219 1 paperback
ISBN-13 978 0 521 82533 7 hardback
ISBN-13 978 0 521 53219 8 paperback

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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

PIERS ARMSTRONG is an Australian-born Brazilianist. He has taught at UCLA and USC in California, and at the Federal University of Bahia and at the State University of Feira de Santana in Brazil. Since 2002 he has been Assistant Professor at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. His first book, *Third World Literary Fortunes* (1999), contrasts the international receptions of Brazilian literature, Spanish American literature, and Brazilian popular culture. His second book, *Cultura Popular na Bahia & Estilística Cultural Pragmática* (2002), is an introduction to cultural studies in the context of Bahia.

DANIEL BALDERSTON is Professor of Latin American Literature at the University of Iowa. Recent publications include *Borges, realidad y simulacros* (2000) and *El deseo, enorme cicatriz luminosa: ensayos sobre homosexualidades latinoamericanas* (2004). He is also the co-editor of *Voice-Overs: Translation and Latin American Literature* (2002) and the *Encyclopedia of Latin American and Caribbean Literature*, 1900–2003 (2004).

ROY C. BOLAND OSEGUEDA is Professor of Spanish in La Trobe University, Honorary Professor of Spanish in the University of Queensland, and Director of the Centre of Galician Studies of Australia. He has been Visiting Professor in many universities, including UCLA, Complutense, Santiago de Compostela, and Lund. He has published widely on Latin American literature and is the current editor of *Antipodas*, the Journal of Hispanic and Galician Studies of Australia and New Zealand. His most recent books are *Culture and Customs of El Salvador* (2001) and *Una rara comedia. Vision and revision de las novelas de Mario Vargas Llosa* (2003).

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STEVEN BOLDY teaches at the University of Cambridge. He has published widely on Latin American narrative, including *The Novels of Julio Cortazar* (1980) and *The Narrative of Carlos Fuentes* (2002).

CATHERINE DAVIES is a Professor in the Department of Hispanic and Latin American Studies at the University of Nottingham. Her research addresses issues relating to cultural production, gender, and nationalism in Spain and Spanish America in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. She is currently working on nineteenth-century Latin American literature and history, in particular the Wars of Independence, and is preparing gendered readings of independence discourse (the writings of Simón Bolívar and Andrés Bello among others). She is Director of the Arts and Humanities Research Board project "Gendering Latin American Independence" (2001–2006). Her numerous publications include the following books: *A Place in the Sun? Women Writers in Twentieth-Century Cuba* (1997), *Spanish Women's Writing* (1849–1996), ed. with Anny Brooksbank Jones (1998), *Latin American Women's Writing: Feminist Readings in Theory and Crisis* (1996).

MICHELLE CLAYTON is Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature, and Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Los Angeles. She has published several articles on modern Peruvian and Southern Cone writers and is currently preparing a manuscript on Cesar Vallejo's *Trilce*.

BRIAN GOLLNICK is Assistant Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Iowa, specializing in Mexican literature, regionalism, and subaltern studies. He has published several articles on contemporary Latin American Literature and Cultural Studies. His current research focuses on literature from the southern Mexican state of Chiapas.

STEPHEN HART is Professor of Hispanic Studies at University College London, England, and holds an honorary doctorate from the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima. He was recently awarded the "Orden al Merito por Servicios Distinguidos" by the Peruvian Government. He is co-editor of the Critical Guides series and commissioning editor of Tamesis. His main publications are *A Companion to Spanish American Literature* (1998), *Contemporary Latin American Cultural Studies* (2003), and *Cesar Vallejo: autografos olvidados* (2003). He is currently preparing a book on Latin American film.

JOHN KING is Professor of Latin American Cultural History at the University of Warwick. He has authored and edited some ten books on Latin American cinema, literature, and cultural history. His most

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recent publications include *Magical Reels: A History of Cinema in Latin America* (expanded edition, 2000) and *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Latin American Culture* (2004).

EFRAÍN KRISTAL is Professor of Spanish and Comparative Literature at UCLA. He is author of *The Andes Viewed from the City: Literary and Political Discourse on the Indian in Perú* (1987), *Temptation of the Word: The Novels of Mario Vargas Llosa* (1998), and *Invisible Work: Borges and Translation* (2002).

SUZANNE JILL LEVINE is a distinguished translator and Professor of Latin American Literature at the University of California in Santa Barbara. Her most recent book is a literary biography *Manuel Puig and the Spider Woman: His Life and Fictions* (2000), published in Spanish in 2002. Her other publications include an early study of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (1975) and *The Subversive Scribe: Translating Latin American Fiction* (1991), as well as numerous essays, articles, chapters, interviews, reviews, and creative translations of major Latin American and Hispanic writers. Her honors include a Guggenheim Fellowship, the PEN Award for Career Achievement in Hispanic Studies, and several grants and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

NAOMI LINDSTROM is a Professor of Spanish and Portuguese and affiliated with Comparative Literature at the University of Texas at Austin. Her numerous publications include *The Social Conscience of Latin American Writing* (1998) and *Early Spanish American Narrative* (2004).

WILLIAM LUIS Professor of Spanish at Vanderbilt University, is the author of several books, including *Literary Bondage: Slavery in Cuban Narrative* (1990), *Dance Between Two Cultures: Latino Caribbean Literature Written in the United States* (1997), *Culture and Customs of Cuba* (2001), and *Lunes de Revolución: Literatura y cultura en los primeros años de la Revolución Cubana* (2003). He has held teaching positions at Dartmouth College, Washington University in St. Louis, SUNY Binghamton, and Yale University. Born and raised in New York City, he is widely regarded as a leading authority on Latin American, Caribbean, Afro-Hispanic, and Latino US literatures.

ISMAEL P. MÁRQUEZ is Professor and Chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. His research interests include Spanish American literature, Peruvian narrative, Andean narrative, and *indigenista* literature. He is author of *La retórica de la*

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violencia en tres novelas peruanas (1994) and of edited volumes on Julio Ramón Ribeyro, Alfredo Bryce Echenique, and Edgardo Rivera Mártinez.

MARTA PEIXOTO is Associate Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, New York University. In addition to several articles on Brazilian poetry and fiction, she has published two books: *Poesia com coisas: uma leitura de Joao Cabral de Melo Neto* (1983) and *Passionate Fictions: Gender, Narrative and Violence in Clarice Lispector* (1994), the latter forthcoming in Portuguese as *Ficcoes apaixonadas*.

PHILIP SWANSON is Professor of Hispanic Studies at the University of Sheffield, UK. He has published extensively on Latin American literature, including books on the New Novel, José Donoso, and Gabriel García Márquez. His most recent books are *Latin American Fiction: A Short Introduction* and the edited volume *The Companion to Latin American Studies*. He is currently completing a book on Isabel Allende. Professor Swanson has taught in a number of universities in Europe and the USA.

JOSÉ J. MARISTANY is the author of *Narraciones peligrosas: Resistencia y adhesión en las novelas del Proceso* (1999) and co-editor of several collections on Argentine literature and culture, as well as of the journal *Anclajes*. He teaches Argentine literature and literary theory at the Universidad Nacional de La Pampa and at the Instituto del Profesorado Joaquín V. González in Buenos Aires.

CLAIRE WILLIAMS is Lecturer in Portuguese and Brazilian Studies at the University of Liverpool. Her research has focused mainly on lusophone women's writing, particularly Clarice Lispector, Maria Gabriela Llansol, and Lìlia Momplé. Wider interests include storytelling and virtual orality, maternal genealogies, and literary representations of the Brazilian favela. Recent publications include the co-edited volume *Closer to the Wild Heart: Essays on Clarice Lispector* (Oxford: Legenda/European Humanities Research Council, 2002) and the forthcoming *The Encounter Between Opposites in the Works of Clarice Lispector* (2004). Dr. Williams is an assistant editor of the *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies* and vice-president of Women in Spanish, Portuguese, and Latin American Studies (WiSPS).

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to express my gratitude to the contributors of this volume for their knowledge and insight. I would also like to thank Ray Ryan and Alison Powell at Cambridge University Press for their editorial guidance, and Jacqueline French for her sedulous, skillful copy-editing. A UCLA Faculty Senate Grant supported the project, as did the Institute for Advanced Study at La Trobe University in Australia, where I worked on the project as a Visiting Fellow. Carole Viers offered indispensable assistance with the final page-proof corrections. Special thanks to Romy Sutherland, John King, Deborah Cohn, Roy C. Boland Osegueda, Suzanne Jill Levine, Kelly Austin, Ryan Kernan, and José Luis Passos for their advice and support.

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NOTE ON TRANSLATIONS

The titles of original works in the text are followed by an English translation in parentheses. Dates refer to the first publication unless indicated otherwise. A literal translation is provided in quotation marks for those works where no published translation is available. Quotations from original works are followed by the relevant page numbers of the cited edition and an English translation in parentheses. The corresponding page numbers of published translations are also given. Where translations are those of the individual contributors to this volume, this is noted in the text.

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CHRONOLOGY

1810–28	Independence of most Latin American Nations with the exceptions of Cuba and Puerto Rico
1816	*El Periquillo Sarniento* (*The Itching Parrot*) by José Joaquín Fernández de Lizardi (Mexico, 1776–1827).
1823–72	Slavery is abolished with the exceptions of Cuba and Brazil
1841	*Sab* by Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda (Cuba, 1814–73)
1845	*Facundo* by Domingo Faustino Sarmiento (Argentina, 1811–88)
1846–48	Mexican–American War concluding with the annexation of California and other South Western states to the United States; Texas had already been annexed in 1845
1855	*Amalia* by José Marmol (Argentina, 1817–71)
1862	*Martín Rivas* by Alberto Blest Gana (Chile, 1830–1920)
1863	*La peregrinación de Bayoán* ("Bayoan's pilgrimage") by Eugenio María de Hostos (Puerto Rico, 1839–1903)
1865	*Iracema* by José de Alencar (Brazil, 1829–79)
1867	*María* by Jorge Isaacs (Colombia, 1837–95)
1879	*Cumandá* by Juan León de Mera (Ecuador, 1832–94)
1882	*Cecilia Valdés, o La loma del Angel* (*Cecilia Valdés, or Angel's Hill*) by Cirilio Villaverde (Cuba, 1812–94); *Enriquillo* (*The Cross and the Sword*) by Manuel de Jesús Galván (Dominican Republic, 1834–1910)
1886	Abolition of slavery in Cuba
1888	Abolition of slavery in Brazil
1889	Brazil becomes a Republic; *Aves sin nido* (*Birds without a Nest*) by Clorinda Matto de Turner (Peru, 1852–1909)
1898	Spanish American War; USA occupies Cuba and Puerto Rico
1899	*Dom Casmurro* by Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis (Brazil, 1839–1908)
1902	Cuban independence: *Os Sertões* (*Rebellion in the Backlands*) by Euclides da Cunha (Brazil, 1866–1909)

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1903	The province of Panama breaks away from Colombia and becomes an independent nation with the support of the United States
1911–20	Mexican Revolution
1915	*Los de abajo* (*The Underdogs*) by Mariano Azuela (Mexico, 1873–1952)
1919	*Raza de bronce* ("Race of bronze") by Alcides Arguedas (Bolivia, 1879–1946)
1924	*La vorágine* (*The Vortex*) by José Eustasio Rivera (Colombia, 1889–1929)
1926	*Don Segundo Sombra* by Ricardo Güiraldes (Argentina, 1886–1927); the United States deploys troops in Nicaragua; resistance by Sandino will follow; Sandino will be assassinated in 1936
1928	*Macunaíma* by Mario de Andrade (Brazil, 1893–1945)
1929	*Doña Bárbara* by Rómulo Gallegos (Venezuela, 1884–1969)
1931	*Las lanzas coloradas* (*The Red Lances*) by Arturo Uslar Pietri (Venezuela, 1906–2001)
1932–35	The Chaco War between Bolivia and Paraguay
1934	*Huasipungo* (*The Villagers*) by Jorge Icaza (Ecuador, 1906–78)
1937	Getulio Vargas establishes an authoritarian regime in Brazil
1938	*Vidas secas* (*Barren Lives*) by Graciliano Ramos (Brazil, 1892–1953); *La amortajada* (*The Shrouded Woman*) by Maria Luisa Bombal (Chile, 1910–80; Mexican Government expropriates foreign oil companies
1941	*El mundo es ancho y ajeno* (*Broad and Alien is the World*) by Ciro Alegría (Peru, 1909–67); *El jardín de senderos que se bifurcan* ("The garden of forking paths") by Jorge Luis Borges (1899–1986)
1943	Military coup in Argentina sponsored by General Perón who will win the Argentine elections in 1946
1945	The Organization of American States is founded
1947	*Al filo del agua* (*The Edge of the Storm*) by Agustín Yáñez (Mexico, 1904–1980)
1948	Civil war in Colombia
1949	*Hombres de maíz* (*Men of Maize*) by Miguel Angel Asturias (Guatemala, 1899–1974); *El reino de este mundo* (*The Kingdom of this World*) by Alejo Carpentier (Cuba, 1904–80)
1950	*Vida breve* (*A Brief Life*) by Juan Carlos Onetti (Uruguay, 1909–94)

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1952	Evita Perón dies; Puerto Rico becomes a "free associated state" of the United States
1955	*Pedro Páramo* by Juan Rulfo (Mexico, 1918–86)
1956	*Grande sertão: veredas* (*The Devil to Pay in the Backlands*) by João Guimarães Rosa (Brazil, 1908–67)
1958	*Los ríos profundos* (*Deep Rivers*) by José María Arguedas (Peru, 1911–69); *Balún Canán* (*The Nine Guardians*) by Rosario Castellanos (Mexico, 1925–74)
1959	Cuban Revolution
1961	Assassination of Trujillo after a thirty-year dictatorship of the Dominican Republic
1962	Cuban missile crisis; *La muerte de Artemio Cruz* (*The Death of Artemio Cruz*) by Carlos Fuentes (Mexico, b. 1929)
1963	*La ciudad y los perros* (*Time of the Hero*) by Mario Vargas Llosa (Peru, b. 1936); *Rayuela* (*Hopscotch*) by Julio Cortázar (Argentina, 1914–84)
1964	*A paixão segundo G. H.* (*The Passion According to G. H.*) by Clarice Lispector (Brazil, 1925–77)
1964–85	Brazil is ruled by a military dictatorship
1965	*Tres tristes tigres* (*Three Trapped Tigers*) by Guillermo Cabrera Infante (Cuba, b. 1929); US military intervention in the Dominican Republic
1966	*Paradiso* by José Lezama Lima (Cuba, 1910–76)
1967	Death of Che Guevara in Bolivia; Nobel Prize in literature awarded to Miguel Angel Asturias; *Cien años de soledad* (*One Hundred Years of Solitude*) by Gabriel García Márquez (Colombia, b. 1928); *Dona Flor e seus dois maridos* (*Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands*) by Jorge Amado (Brazil, 1912–2001); *Morirás lejos* (*You Will Die in a Distant Place*) by José Emilio Pacheco (Mexico, b. 1939)
1968	Tlatelolco massacre in Mexico
1968–80	Military government in Peru
1969	*Hasta no verte jesús mío* (*Here is to you Jesusa!*) by Elena Poniatowska (Mexico, b. 1932)
1970	*El obsceno pájaro de la noche* (*The Obscene Bird of the Night*) by José Donoso (Chile, 1924–96); *Un mundo para Julius* (*A World for Julius*) by Alfredo Bryce Echenique (Peru, b. 1939)
1971	Military coup led by General Banzer Suárez in Bolivia
1973–90	Military dictatorship in Chile led by General Augusto Pinochet
1974	*Yo el Supremo* (*I the Supreme*) by Augusto Roa Bastos (Paraguay, b. 1917)

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1975	*Soñe que la nieve ardía* (*I Dreamt the Snow was Burning*) by Antonio Skármeta (Chile, b. 1940)
1976–83	Military dictatorship in Argentina
1976	*El beso de la mujer araña* (*The Kiss of the Spider Woman*) by Manuel Puig (Argentina, 1932–90); *Entre Marx y una mujer desnuda* (*Between Marx and a Naked Woman*) by Jorge E. Adoum (Ecuador, b. 1923); *La guaracha del macho Camacho* (*Macho Camacho's Beat*) by Luis Rafael Sánchez (Puerto Rico, b. 1936)
1977	*El último juego* ("The last game") by Gloria Guardia (Panama, b. 1940)
1979	Sandinistas overthrow Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua; regime lasts until 1990
1980	Military repression in Guatemala resulting from guerrilla activity; *Respiración artificial* (*Artificial Respiration*) by Ricardo Piglia (Argentina, b. 1941); *La biografía difusa de Sombra Castañeda* ("The diffused biography of Sombra Castañeda") by Marcio Veloz Maggiolo (Dominican Republic, b. 1936)
1981	*La guerra del fin del mundo* (*The War of the End of the World*) by Mario Vargas Llosa; *En breve cárcel* (*Certificate of Absence*) by Sylvia Molloy (Argentina, b. 1938); *Las genealogías* (*The Family Tree*) by Margo Glantz (Mexico, b. 1930)
1982	*La casa de los espíritus* (*The House of the Spirits*) by Isabel Allende (Chile, b.1942); Nobel Prize in literature awarded to Gabriel García Márquez
1983	*Los perros del paraíso* (*The Dogs of Paradise*) by Abel Posse (Argentina, b. 1939); *Cola de Lagartija* (*Lizard's Tail*) by Luisa Valenzuela (Argentina, b. 1938)
1983	*Lumpérica* (*E. Luminata*) by Diamela Eltit (Chile, b. 1949)
1984	*A república dos sonhos* (*The Republic of Dreams*) by Nélida Piñón (Brazil b. 1936); *La nave de los locos* (*Ship of Fools*) by Cristina Peri Rossi (Uruguay, b. 1940)
1985	Democracy is restored in Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay; five years later in Chile; this date signals to many the return to democracy in Latin American nations that had suffered dictatorships, and the rise of neo-liberal economic policies; *Stella Manhattan* by Silviano Santiago (Brazil, b. 1936)
1987	Oscar Arias plan for peace in Central America; on that same year the statesman from Costa Rica wins the Nobel Prize for Peace; *Maldito Amor* (*Sweet Diamond Dust*) by Rosario Ferré (Puerto Rico, b. 1938)

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1988	*Domar a la divina garza* ("The taming of the divine stork") by Sergio Pitól (Mexico, b. 1933); *La mujer habitada* (*The Inhabited Woman*) by Gioconda Belli (Nicaragua, b. 1935)
1989	*El jaguar en llamas* ("The jaguar in flames") by Arturo Arias (Guatemala, b. 1950); *Relato de um certo oriente* (*The Three of the Seventh Heaven*) by Milton Hatoum (Brazil, b. 1950); *As horas nuas* (*Naked Hours*) by Lygia Fagundes Telles (Brazil, b. 1923)
1990	Mario Vargas Llosa is defeated by Alberto Fujimori in the Peruvian presidential elections
1991	*La liebre* ("The hare") by César Aira (Argentina, b. 1949)
1992	Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Rigoberta Menchú; *Doña Inés contra el olvido* (*Doña Inés Vs. Oblivion*) by Ana Teresa Torres (Venezuela, b. 1945)
1993	*La loca de Gandoca* ("The madwoman of Gandoca") by Ana Cristina Rossi (Costa Rica, b. 1952); *Madrugada: El Rey del Albor* ("Dawn: the king of Albor") by Julio Escoto (Honduras, b. 1946)
1994	Zapatista revolt begins in Chiapas (Mexico); *No se lo digas a nadie* (*Don't Tell Anyone*) by Jaime Bayly (Peru, b. 1965)
1995	*Santa Evita* by Tomás Eloy Martínez (Argentina, b. 1945)
1996	*Las rémoras* ("The obstacles") by Elroy Urroz (Mexico, b. 1967)
1997	*Café nostalgia* ("Nostalgia café") by Zoé Valdés (Cuba, b. 1959); *Cidade de Deus* ("City of God") by Paulo Lins (Brazil, b. 1958); *Cartilha do siléncio* ("Manual of silence") by Francisco J. C. Dantas (Brazil, b. 1941)
1998	*Aprendiendo a morir* ("Learning to die") by Alicia Yánez Cossío (Ecuador, b. 1928)
1999	*En busca de Klingsor* (*In search of Klingsor*) by Jorge Volpi, (Mexico, b. 1968); *Salón de Belleza* ("Beauty parlor") by Mario Bellatín (Peru/Mexico, b. 1960)
2000	President Vicente Fox is elected President of Mexico and for the first time since its foundation after the Mexican Revolution, the PRI ("Revolutionary Institutionalized Party") is defeated in Mexican election; Sirena Selena vestida de pena (*Sirena Selena*) by Mayra Santos-Febres (Puerto Rico, b. 1966)
2001	*La materia del deseo* (*Matter of Desire*) by Edmundo Paz Soldán (Bolivia, b. 1967); *Libro de mal amor* ("Book of bad love") by Fernando Iwasaki (Peru, b. 1961)

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2002	*Sombras nada más* ("Nothing but shadows") by Sergio Ramírez (Nicaragua, b. 1942); *Dias e dias* ("Days and days") by Ana Maria Miranda (Brazil, b. 1951)
2003	*Las películas de mi vida* (*The Movies of my Life*) by Alberto Fuguet (Chile, b. 1964); *Budapest* by Chico Buarque (Brazil, b. 1944)
2004	*2666* by Roberto Bolaño (Chile, 1953–2003)

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