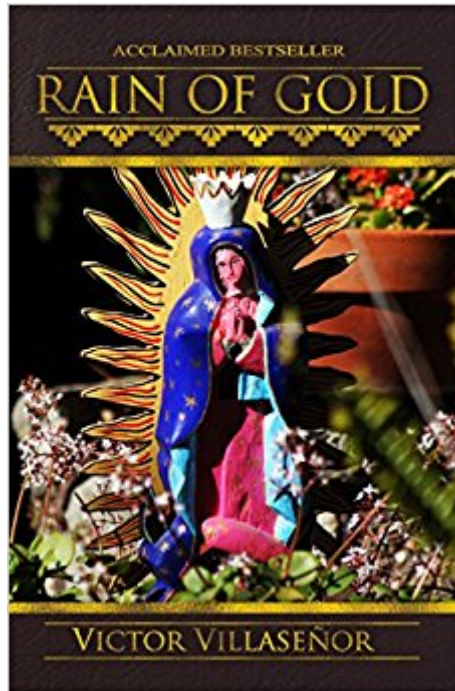




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# Rain Of Gold



## Synopsis

Rain of Gold is a true-life saga of love, family and destiny that pulses with bold vitality, sweeping from the war-ravaged Mexican mountains of Pancho Villa's revolution to the days of Prohibition in California. It all began when Villasenor's maternal grandmother sat him down in their little home in the barrio of Carlsbad, California, gave him sweet bread and told him the story of their past. Of his mother Lupe, the most beautiful girl in the whole village who was only a child when Villa's men came shooting into their canyon. And of his father Juan and his family, reduced to rags and starvation as they sought refuge across the border, where they believed that endless opportunity awaited. Lupe and Juan met and fell in love in California, but they found that the doors to the Promised Land were often closed to those from south of the border. His father was forced to take the law into his own hands, in spite of his wife's objections. With love and humor, Villasenor shares this passionate love story that celebrates the triumph of the human spirit. An all-American story of struggle and success, Rain of Gold focuses on three generations of Villasenor's kin, their spiritual and cultural roots back in Mexico, their immigration to California and overcoming poverty, prejudice and economic exploitation. It is the warm-hearted and spirited account of the wily, wary and persevering forebears of Victor Villasenor.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

" . . . a grand and vivid history . . . [Villasenor's] characters are keenly drawn . . . Often I felt like a family member quietly watching from a corner stool." --The New York Times Book Review"

Villasenor is a born storyteller, and this Latino Roots . . . is a gripping inspirational epic full of wild

adventure, bootlegging, young love, miracles, tragedies, murder and triumph over cultural barriers." --Publishers Weekly" The brisk, down-to-earth prose sweeps the reader through often fantastic events in a compelling narrative. This is a big book, but one that moves swiftly. It is a story that deserves to be told, bringing to life a cultural heritage of all Americans." --The Washington Post

VICTOR VILLASENOR is a novelist and screenwriter whose works have brought Mexican-American culture and literature to a wide audience. The Los Angeles Times compared his first novel, *Macho!* (Arte Publico Press, 1973 & 2003), to the best work of John Steinbeck. In addition to *Rain of Gold* (Arte Publico Press, 1991), he is the author of *Burrio Genius: A Memoir* (Rayo, 2004), *Thirteen Senses: A Memoir* (Harper Collins, 2001), *Wild Steps of Heaven* (Delta Books, 1995), and a collection of stories for young adults, *Walking Stars: Stories of Magic and Power* (Arte Publico Press, 2003). Villasenor lives in Oceanside, California, where he continues to write.

Victor Villasenor is an amazing story teller. A teller of true stories of his family lineage. It's one of the firsts book to have made me laugh out loud and secretly wipe away tears while reading in class. This is my third time buying this book just to give it to some one I care about as a gift for an experience. Though I have to say I like the old cover better. This new cover makes it look like a book for Catholic bible study, which isn't bad but this book is not necessarily a religious book. It's just an awesome book to read and then share.

Quick-paced and packed with the life stories of two families at the time of the Mexican Revolution. History of Southern California during prohibition along with the migrant workers in the fields. These life stories were filled with emotion, struggles and the faith that brought all through times of hardship. This is definitely a tribute to the ancestors of the author.

Amazing family story told in epic fashion by Victor VillaAs a reader, you are immersed in the box canyon with vivid details. Over time, you feel like you get to know the characters and miss them when the book comes to a close.

great memories My husband read it to me during Valentines many years ago. It gave me a great perspective of time during my Great Grandma coming from Mexico

A classsic, with a Steinbeck style approach, but with still a uniquely Villasenor and Latino-Latina

voice and heartbeat.

Great Read!

Great book

The series of books Villaseñor has written about his family, this plus *Wild Steps of Heaven* and *The Thirteen Senses*, are some I recommend over and over to my friends. Beautiful writing, magical settings, and laughter aplenty will keep you up late turning the pages.

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