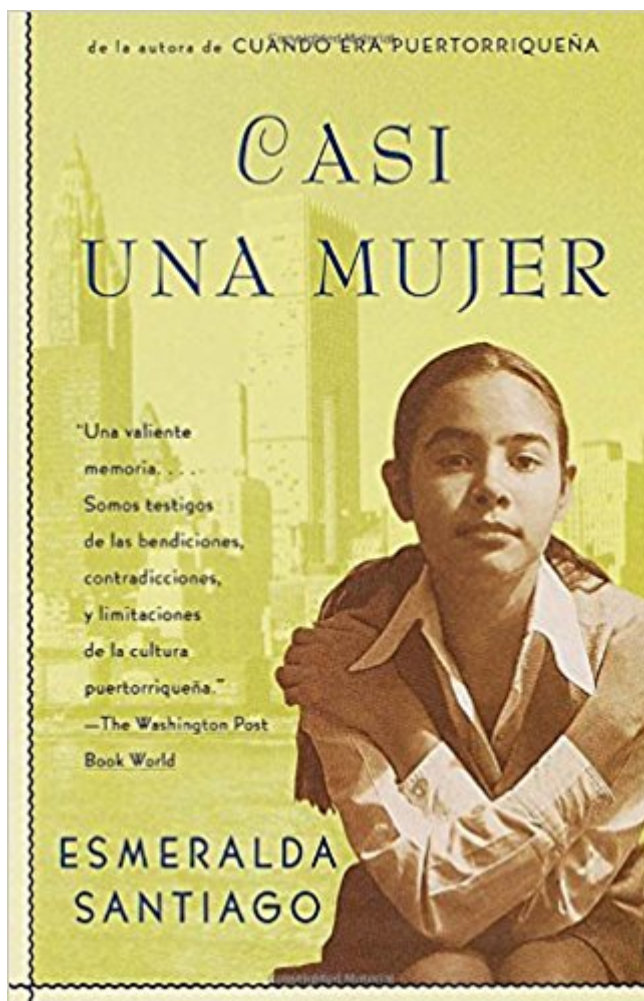


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Casi Una Mujer



Synopsis

A simultaneous Spanish-language edition, originally translated for Vintage by Nina Torres-Vidal. In her new memoir, the acclaimed author of *When I Was Puerto Rican* continues the riveting chronicle of her life. "Negi," as Santiago's family affectionately calls her, leaves rural Puerto Rico in 1961 to live in a three-bedroom tenement apartment with seven siblings, and inquisitive grandmother, and a strict mother who won't allow her to date. At thirteen, Negi yearns for her own bed, for privacy, and her father, who remains in Puerto Rico. Translating for Mami at the welfare office in the morning, starring as Cleopatra at New York's Performing Arts High School in the afternoon, and dancing salsa all night, she also seeks to find balance between being an American and Puerto Rican. When Negi defies her mother by going on a series of dates, she finds that independence brings challenges. At once a universally poignant coming-of-age tale and a heartfelt immigrant's story, *Almost a Woman* is Santiago's triumphant journey into womanhood.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's astonishing that we had to wait two years for the Spanish edition of Angela's *Ashes* and over 30 years for the translation of Tom's *Down These Mean Streets*, a classic that first introduced the barrio to wider audiences. But at least they're here. It's also a treat to have this memoir from Jimenez, Cuban born and now a leading literary scholar living in the United States. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"A courageous memoir...One witnesses the blessings, contradictions, and restraints of Puerto Rican culture." --The Washington Post Book World"Richly evocative...[Santiago has] the skill to render the most minute details of her before and after lives." --The Los Angeles Times"Santiago writes with a flair for detail, humor, and complex emotion that draws readers into a delightful...if sometimes heart breaking, personal journey." --The Orlando Sentinel"A universal tale...made special by Santiago's simplicity and honesty." --Miami Herald

I could not stop reading. I would recommend it, she is such a good writer and how she gives detailed descriptions makes me feel like I am there.

The continuation of Cuando era Puertorriqueña - When I was Puertorican - Esmeralda shares her struggles about growing up in the US, specially coming from a poor family. Santiago's writing transport us to the "barrio" as easy as she takes us to the glamorous streets of Manhattan.

Yo Imigre a New York en 1980, ahora vivo en la Florida,si yo tubiera la habilidad de escribir un libro seria 99% la misma historia que ella nos relata. Por eso me senti tan identificada con este libro, Me encantaria saber si alguien que se mudo a New York en el 2000 se ve reflejada tanto como me senti Yo. Este libro me trajo tantas memorias, lo disfrute en cantidad. Gracias a Esperanza Santiago

Esmeralda Santiago es una autor fabulosa! Su manera de contar la historia como de la voz de una nina. Me encanta! Y su experiencia viviendo en NYC, es tan autentica. Me gusto mucho.

Beautiful. Enjoyed very much

This is the second book by Santiago about her life. She's an interesting person who overcame some obstacles to make a good life for herself.

I love this author!

Good

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