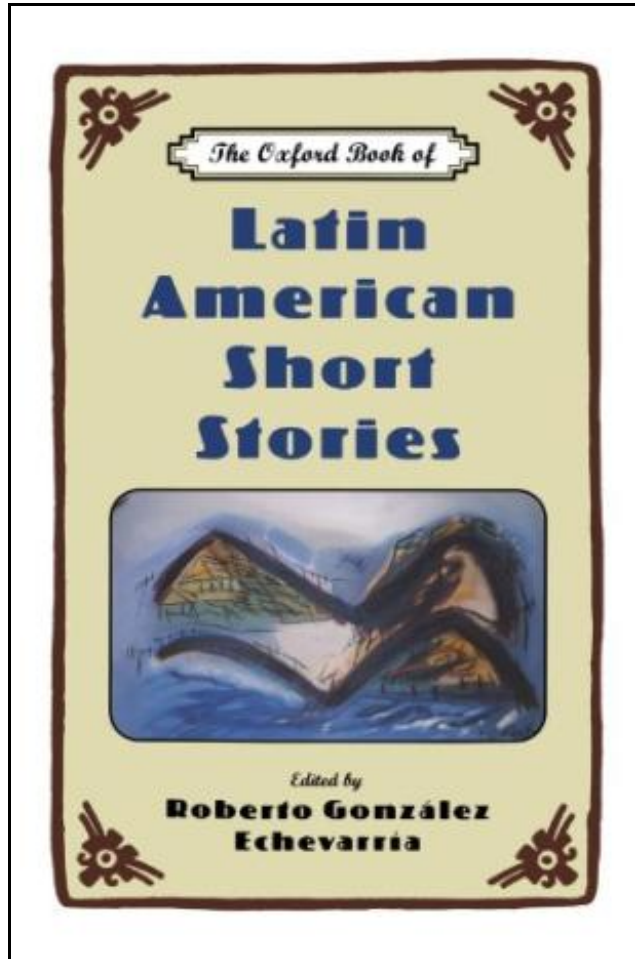


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Oxford University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 481 pages. Dimensions: 8.1in. x 5.4in. x 1.1in. When Latin American writers burst onto the world literary scene in the now famous Boom of the sixties, it seemed as if an entire literature had invented itself over night out of thin air. Not only was the writing extraordinary but its sudden and spectacular appearance itself seemed magical. In fact, Latin American literature has a long and rich tradition that reaches back to the Colonial period and is filled with remarkable writers too little known in the English-speaking world. The short story has been a central part of this tradition, from Fray Bartolome de las Casas narrative protests against the Spanish Conquistadors abuses of Indians, to the world renowned Ficciones of Jorge Luis Borges, to the contemporary works of such masters as Carlos Fuentes, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Rosario Ferre, and others. Now, in *The Oxford Book of Latin American Short Stories*, editor Roberto Gonzalez Echevarria brings together fifty-three stories that span the history of Latin American literature and represent the most dazzling achievements in the form. In his fascinating introduction, Gonzalez Echevarria traces the evolution of the short story in Latin American literature, explaining why the genre has flourished there with such brilliance, and illuminating the various cultural and literary tensions that resolve themselves in magical realism. The stories themselves exhibit all the inventiveness, the luxuriousness of language, the wild metaphoric leaps and uncanny conjunctions of the ordinary with the fantastic that have given the Latin American short story its distinctive and unforgettable flavor: From the Joycean subtlety of Machado de Assis's *Midnight Mass*, to the brutal parable of Julio Ramon Ribeyros *Featherless Buzzards*, to the startling disorientation of Alejo Carpentier's *Journey Back to the Source*, (which is told backwards, because a sorcerer has...

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