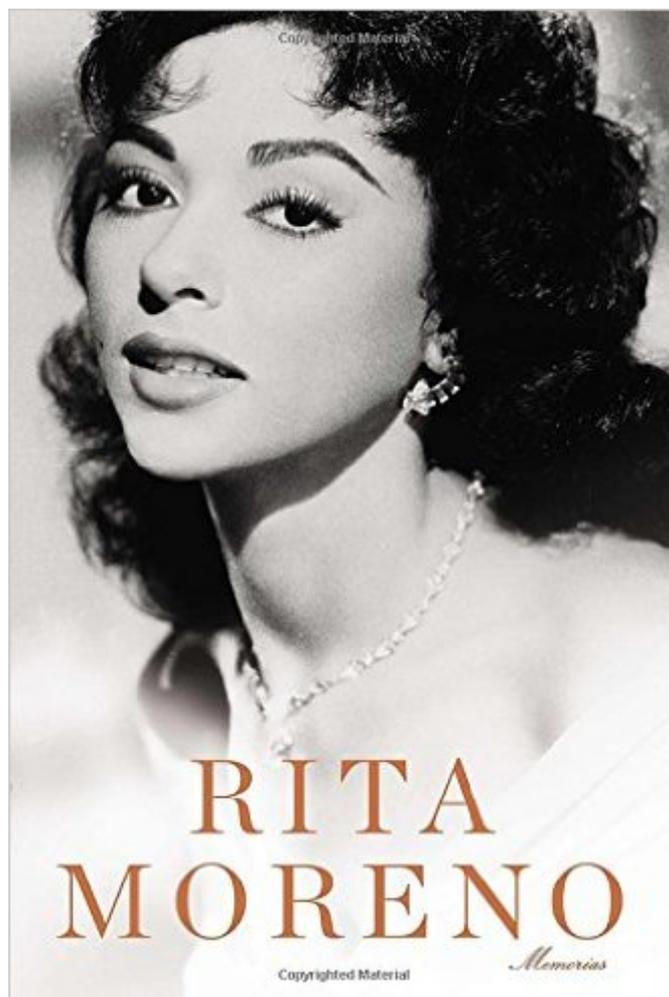


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Rita Moreno: Memorias (Spanish Edition)



Synopsis

En esta ícida autobiografía, Rita Moreno nos hace partícipes de su extraordinario periplo desde los sencillos inicios de su temprana niñez en Puerto Rico hasta que se convirtió en una leyenda de Hollywood y en una de las pocas artistas, y la única hispana, que ha ganado un Oscar, un Grammy, un Tony, y dos Emmy. A la edad de cinco años, Rosita Dolores Alverio, nacida en la idílica isla de Puerto Rico, se embarcó en una borrascosa travesía por mar con su madre, que la llevó hasta los turbulentos barrios del Bronx, donde descubrió que la danza, el canto y la actuación serían el escape de su accidentada niñez. A sus trece años, debutó en Broadway y poco después, en los años dorados de la meca del cine, se trasladó a Hollywood donde trabajó junto a estrellas de la talla de Gary Cooper, Yul Brynner, y Ann Miller. Cuando fue descubierta por Louis B. Mayer de MGM, el propio magnate declaró: «Ella parece una Elizabeth Taylor hispana». Gene Kelly la eligió para interpretar el papel de Zelda Zanders en *Singin' in the Rain*, que la lanzó a la fama y a su actuación ganadora del Oscar, en *West Side Story*. Pero durante mucho tiempo Moreno fue encasillada en el estereotipo de «versátil nativa» un rol que le fue casi imposible eludir. Aquí, por primera vez Rita reflexiona sobre su prolongada lucha por superar las barreras raciales y sexuales de Hollywood. Estudia a fondo la vulnerable jovencita que ocultaba su glamorosa fachada y cuánto le costó encontrar su lugar en el mundo. Habla con franqueza de su relación con Elvis Presley, de sus encuentros con Howard Hughes, y del apasionado romance con Marlon Brando que la llevó hasta un intento de suicidio. Y nos enseña a los bemoles de un matrimonio «perfecto» y las incomparables alegrías de la maternidad. Impregnada del brillante desparpajo y la profunda perspicacia de Rita Moreno, esta autobiografía es el deslumbrante retrato de una estrella del teatro y el cine que anhelaba convertirse en lo que realmente es ella... y lo logró. Â

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Customer Reviews

In a memoir that is affectionately dedicated to her daughter, Fernanda, stage and screen legend Rita Moreno takes readers from her tumultuous move from Puerto Rico to New York City as a small child through the trials and tribulations of a Hispanic woman trying to make it on Broadway and in Hollywood. Moreno is one of the few performers to have won an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony, along with the National Medal of Honor. She recently concluded a one-woman show about her life entitled *Life Without Makeup* and currently appears on the television series "Happily Divorced" on TV Land. No matter who you are, Moreno has probably touched your life in some way during her nearly eight decades of performing. I discovered her on the PBS children's educational series "The Electric Company," which typically aired after "Sesame Street" in the 1960s/70s. How surprised I was to find that she already had decades of experience under her belt, with a highlight being her glorious Oscar win for Best Performance by a Supporting Actress in 1961's *West Side Story*. RITA MORENO tells the entire story of this incredible and determined woman. The memoir opens with a young girl, suffering from a deadly bout of chicken pox, in a run-down New York City hospital in 1936. She is practically right off the boat from Puerto Rico and barely speaks any English. Rosita Delores Alverio arrived in America with her mother, leaving behind a younger brother and large family in Puerto Rico. Young Rosita survived the chicken pox, but never got over the culture shock of leaving the Technicolor world of Puerto Rico for the dreary, black and white facade of NYC. She also did not realize then that she would never see her baby brother again. Rosita loved to dance and was a natural entertainer.

Most of us probably know of Rita Moreno from her role as Anita in *West Side Story*. Her trademark? Being the Latina "spitfire." She's the "Hispanic Elizabeth Taylor." If you know anything else about her, it's probably that she's the first Hispanic woman to win the Oscar. Or more notably, that she's one of the only performers to EVER receive an Oscar, a Grammy, a Tony and an Emmy. Well, now she can add best-selling author to that ever-growing list of talents. In her self-titled memoir, Moreno opens up about life on and off the screen, touching on family, love, loss and her tumultuous rise to fame. Quintessentially, she's the all-American dream. Moreno's story is broken down into four parts,

each one chronicling her evolution from humble little Rosita Dolores Alverio from Juncos into the sizzling songstress/screen siren, Rita Moreno. It's a tumultuous journey of insecurity, doubt, passion and self-discovery told in the most raw and honest of ways. In it, she describes the lush landscape of her native Puerto Rico, her struggle to break on to the Hollywood scene and her harrowing and debilitating relationship with bad boy, Marlon Brando. On the surface, Moreno's life seems so perfect but underneath it all it's one built atop broken promises --- by her mother and father, by Hollywood and by many lovers --- the strength she pulls from all these experiences though, that's what makes this book such an incredible one to read. Her story is as captivating as she herself is on screen. You can really get a feel for Moreno's personality solely by looking at the way she tells her story --- it's exotic, wild, imaginative, vivid and rich with detail. As a reader, I became keenly aware of all of my senses and was atune to the world in an entirely new way.

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