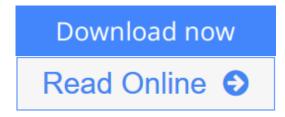


## The Last Generation: Prose and Poetry

By Cherrie Moraga



The Last Generation: Prose and Poetry By Cherrie Moraga

A classic work by award-winning author Cherríe Moraga, *The Last Generation* is an electric mix of prose and poetry that continues conversations started in the beloved books *This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color* and *Loving in the War Years: Lo que nunca pasó por sus labios.* Highly politicized and intensely personal, Moraga's work dares to imagine the mythic nation Queer Atzlán: a brave vision for gender, sexuality, race, art, nationalism, and the politics of liberation. Moraga crosses literary genres to ruminate on the paradox of being at once inside and outside the myriad struggles and communities—interlocking and often at odds—that spur her art and activism. Speaking from her experience as a queer Chicana activist/artist, Moraga is committed to building a broad politic of solidarity and justice for all dispossessed people.

With fierce honesty and incisive political analysis, Moraga offers more than an inspiring portrait of the struggle of an activist artist—she helps us see the world as it is and dream it up anew.



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### The Last Generation: Prose and Poetry By Cherrie Moraga Bibliography

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From Publishers Weekly

The product of a white father and a Mexican mother, playwright Moraga describes herself as a "mongrel" and knows "full well that my mestizaje--my breed blood--is the catalyst of my activism and my art." As a radical lesbian feminist, she is alienated from her cousins with their children and pregnant wives. She views the Chicano movement as sexist, stemming from a culture in which rape, incest, battered women and drug abuse are the norm. The dichotomy of her existence is underscored, she believes, by the U.S. role in supporting dictatorships in Latin America. Essays form the bulk of this debut collection, while a few interwoven poems provide a lyrical break from her heavily polemical tone. At its best, her prose contains the same heartfelt revelations that make her poems memorable, as in a sexually explicit account of her first schoolgirl crush. "In love, color blurs but never wholly disappears," she writes in another essay that delineates her lovers by race. Her longing for a day when such a statement will no longer be applicable provides a utopian undercurrent to the collection. Moraga is co-editor of This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color.

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#### From Library Journal

A poet, playwright, essayist, and anthologist (she coedited This Bridge Called My Back, Kitchen Table Pr., 1984), Moraga is a Chicana lesbian determinedly resisting assimilation. She longs for the formation of a "Queer Aztlan," an inclusive Chicano tribe in which cooperation is rewarded over competition. "Written as a prayer"--a visionary prayer honoring the author's belief that "every writer is a prophet if she only opens her heart and listens"--the poems and essays here celebrate difference while calling for a solidarity of the disenfranchised. It is much to Moraga's credit that her confessional manifesto largely succeeds. Vulnerable and wise, her work sets us yearning with the author "to be fully known and loved." The liberal mixing of English, Spanish, and Spanglish rings just right; cognates, context, and momentum fold the languages into an intelligible and evocative whole.

- *Thomas Tavis, San Francisco P.L.* Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

#### Review

"Vulnerable and wise, [The Last Generation] sets us yearning with the author 'to be fully known and loved.""—Library Journal

"I adore Cherríe Moraga's work. . . . She is absolutely essential."—Junot Díaz, author of *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* 

- "Moraga boldly examines the meaning of being Chicana and lesbian in the United States today."

  —Judith Ortiz Cofer, Women's Review of Books
- "Moraga demonstrates her virtuosity as a poet; and, as a poet, she brings to her nonfiction essays images so hard, honest, and disturbing that her political analysis is breathtakingly personal and immediate."
- -San Francisco Chronicle

#### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### Wanda Legros:

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#### Jennifer Wadsworth:

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#### Estela Gillard:

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