

Tortuga: A Novel

By Rudolfo Anaya



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Master storyteller Rudolfo Anaya explores the world of pain and recovery in this autobiographical novel about an injured teenage boy's journey to overcome suffering—both physical and spiritual

When the story opens, the eponymous hero of Rudolfo Anaya's novel is in an ambulance en route to a hospital for crippled children in the New Mexican desert. A poor boy from Albuquerque, sixteen-year-old Tortuga takes his name from the odd, turtle-shaped mountain that is rumored to possess miraculous curative powers. Tortuga is paralyzed, and not even his mother's fervent prayers can heal him. But under the mountain's watchful gaze, with the support of fellow patients, he begins the Herculean task of breaking out of his shell and becoming whole again.

Drawn from personal experience and imbued with the magic realism and phantasmagorical vision quests that distinguish Anaya's work, *Tortuga* is a joyful, life-sustaining book about hope, faith, friendship, and love that celebrates the triumph of the human spirit in the physical world.

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Editorial Review

Review

"A highly emotional tale of a young soul who turned from a turtle into a human all within the span of 200 pages."

"Explores the significance of pain and suffering in a young boy's life and the importance of spiritual recovery as well as medical."

""Tortuga" is one of those rare works that speaks to the human condition across time and space, and it welldeserves to find a new generation of readers."

"A compelling story of a young man who suffers and learns to make peace with who he is, "Tortuga" has that touch of magic, of fantastical characters, of dreams as real as sunlight, associated with the best of Chicano literature."

From the Inside Flap

Anaya shares his memories of the incident which inspired Tortuga in the new Afterword of this 25th anniversary edition of his literary classic.

About the Author

Rudolfo Anaya, widely acclaimed as one of the founders of modern Chicano literature, is professor emeritus of English at the University of New Mexico. Anaya was presented with the National Medal of Arts for literature in 2001 and his novel *Alburquerque* (the city's original Spanish spelling) won the PEN Center West Award for Fiction. He is best known for the classic *Bless Me Ultima*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Valerie Hemming:

The knowledge that you get from Tortuga: A Novel could be the more deep you searching the information that hide inside words the more you get serious about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to recognise but Tortuga: A Novel giving you enjoyment feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in specific way that can be understood by anyone who read that because the author of this publication is well-known enough. That book also makes your vocabulary increase well. Making it easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having this specific Tortuga: A Novel instantly.

Frank Johnson:

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Desmond Goforth:

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