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Shattering the Myth: Plays by Hispanic Women

Cherrie Moraga, Migdalia Cruz, Caridad Svich, Josefina Lopez, Edit Villarreal, Diana Saenz
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Cherrie Moraga, Migdalia Cruz, Caridad Svich, Josefina Lopez, Edit Villarreal, Diana Saenz : Shattering the Myth: Plays by Hispanic Women before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shattering the Myth: Plays by Hispanic Women:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. It's an important book for Chicano/Latino theater students.By A

CustomerThis is an anthology of plays by six Latina playwrights: Cherrie Moraga, Migdalia Cruz, Caridad Svich, Josefina Lopez, Edit Villarreal, and Diana Saenz. It is a must-have reference book, especially for anyone studying Chicano theater specifically. Moraga is a high-profile academic who is not only a prominent voice for Chicanas but for lesbians of color. Here you will find her script for "Shadow of a Man." Lopez is the most widely produced of Chicano and Chicana playwrights. Her first play "Simply Maria, or The American Dream," which is in this anthology, was produced when she was eighteen. And an earlier draft of Villarreal's semi-autobiographical memory play "My Visits with MGM (My Grandmother Marta)"--the third most produced Chicano play in the United States today--is included, too. 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Words from Diana Saenz, playwrightBy Diana SaenzSince the publication of *Shattering the Myth*, the plays in this anthology have enjoyed greater awareness and subsequently been produced throughout the United States. It is read throughout American universities and is the book that directors and actors look towards when they are looking for subject matter on the Latino Experience. I give it five stars because it addresses the needs of theaters in search of material that will represent women, and in particular, Latina women. Of the authors included in this anthology, I have personally known Ms. Lopez and Ms. Moraga. Their depiction of the characters in their plays, *Shadow of a Man*, and *Simply Maria*, is told with love, sincerity and the truth in translating their personal experience into art. My play, *Dream of Canaries*, has been produced in AM Texas University, University of Amherst, MA, Portland University in Maine, as well as other theaters. The individuality and complexity of this play has been revealed in each production in the interpretation of each director according to his or her vision. These visions, give testament to the life of the theater. Published works such as these need to be made available to all so that we may be allowed to portray all facets of American Culture.

The plays, written between 1986 and 1991, have been performed or read in theaters across the United States. They shatter myths and create a broader, freer space for women's cultural development.

"Pointedly cultural, authentically voiced, ... this anthology belongs in all drama collections." -- Women Library Workers Journal