



# Mother Tongue

By Demetria Martinez

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"It is a great beauty of a book, and I am so proud of you for standing with and for the disappeared. A sister, a lover, a witness."

--Alice Walker

Mary is nineteen and living alone in Albuquerque. Adrift in the wake of her mother's death, she longs for something meaningful to take her over. Then José Luis enters her life. A refugee from El Salvador and its bloody civil war, José has been smuggled to the United States as part of the sanctuary movement.

Mary cannot help but fall in love with the movement and the man. And little by little, she begins to reveal to José Luis the part of herself she has never known. . .

"A book that becomes more timely every day, in our present political climate, and deserves the widest possible audience for its beautiful prose and humanitarian heart."

--Barbara Kingsolver

"Demetria Martínez has pulled out all the stops: here is truth to arouse any hardened heart; here is the 'insanity' of a woman in love calling forth a revolutionary lucidity. Read it. Get angry. And act."

--Luis J. Rodríguez, Author of Always Running

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## **Mother Tongue** By Demetria Martinez Bibliography

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- Published on: 1997-08-12
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- Original language: English
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- Dimensions: 7.60" h x .50" w x 5.10" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 208 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### From the Publisher

That it is possible to learn as much from fiction as from nonfiction is made abundantly clear from a reading of *MOTHER TONGUE*. Martinez focuses her story on a young woman who becomes involved with a refugee from El Salvador who is smuggled into the U.S. by members of the Sanctuary movement, advocates for the tens of thousands of Salvadorans who have been harassed, tortured, and "disappeared" by a U.S.-supported military government.

There is the truth of experience behind Martinez' fiction. In 1987, she was charged with conspiring against the U.S. government and aiding the entry of Salvadorans into the country. At the end of her 1988 trial, she was acquitted of the charges on First Amendment grounds -- the jury determined that she had a right, as a reporter for the National Catholic Reporter, to witness efforts to aid refugees as part of the Sanctuary movement. Martinez knows whereof she speaks, and writes of it with the voice of the poet that she is. -- Margaret Sanborn/Publicity

#### From the Inside Flap

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--Alice Walker

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#### From the Back Cover

Mary is nineteen and living alone in Albuquerque. Adrift in the wake of her mother's death, she longs for something meaningful to take her over. Vulnerable to love and game for anything, Mary knows she has found the other part of herself when Jose Luis enters her life. A refugee from El Salvador and its vicious and bloody civil war, Jose Luis has been smuggled to the United States as part of the sanctuary movement that is attempting to expose the plight of thousands of citizens being harassed, tortured, and disappeared by a United States-supported military government. Mary cannot help but fall in love with the movement and the man who represents it for her - his strength, his sadness, and the life he has left behind. And little by little, she begins to reveal to Jose Luis the hope that always lives in love. Though violent times conspire against Mary's dreams, she is about to lay claim to a part of herself she has never known.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

**Ginger Beals:**

The experience that you get from Mother Tongue is a more deep you excavating the information that hide into the words the more you get serious about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to be aware of but Mother Tongue giving you thrill feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in particular way that can be understood by means of anyone who read the idea because the author of this reserve is well-known enough. This kind of book also makes your vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We recommend you for having this particular Mother Tongue instantly.

**Solomon Steward:**

The e-book with title Mother Tongue has lot of information that you can find out it. You can get a lot of benefit after read this book. That book exist new expertise the information that exist in this e-book represented the condition of the world right now. That is important to you to know how the improvement of the world. This book will bring you throughout new era of the the positive effect. You can read the e-book with your smart phone, so you can read it anywhere you want.

**Mary Perez:**

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**Rosario Jones:**

In this era which is the greater person or who has ability to do something more are more important than other. Do you want to become among it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time little but quite enough to experience a look at some books. One of many books in the top checklist in your reading list will be Mother Tongue. This book which can be qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in turning into precious person. By looking upward and review this publication you can get many advantages.

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