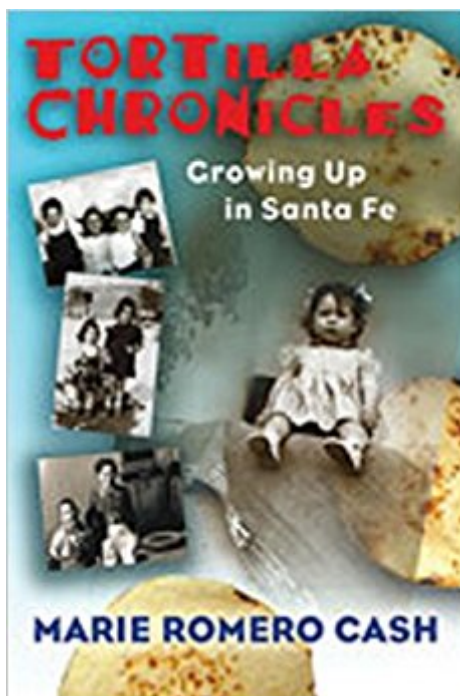


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Tortilla Chronicles: Growing Up In Santa Fe



Synopsis

A family memoir full of New Mexico flavor, *Tortilla Chronicles* serves up a hearty helping of the "City Different" from the perspective of the humble, hardworking Romeros, a family honored for its contributions to regional folk arts. Marie Romero Cash, herself a renowned artist, poignantly sketches each family member using his or her own voice. Their stories present a rare glimpse into the life of a traditional Hispano family and provide an antidote to typical nostalgic tourist accounts of 1950s Santa Fe. One of the main characters is Santa Fe itself, and the narrative tours the city's streets, shops, plaza, and surrounding hills and arroyos in astounding detail. The ancestry and rituals of family life, the culture and religion of northern New Mexico, and the growth of a neighborhood and its children are all part of the recipe.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The traditional Hispanic culture of 1950s Santa Fe comes alive through the members of the hardworking Romero family.

Marie Romero Cash is a celebrated folk artist in Santa Fe where she has lived most of her life. She has created art for many churches in the United States and in Mexico. Romero Cash is the author of *Living Shrines: Devotional Spaces in Northern New Mexico* and *Homes and Santos: Enduring Images of Northern New Mexican Village Churches*.

I had always been interested in the work of Marie Cash, artistically and in the written form. I wanted

to read this book in order to get a sense of who she was, and consequently I received something more powerful in this piece of work. Having Spanish roots and being thirty one years of age, this book took me back to a time of my parents and grandparents era of living in New Mexico. I was reminded of simpler times, when values were stronger and the world wasn't in such a hurry! Yes times were harder and more challenging, and we sometimes forget how easy we have it. Powerful themes of tradition, identity, gender inequality, and family are exemplified. I hear an echo of my ancestors that makes me nostalgic, wishing that many of my generation would pick up this title and once again be reminded of what once was. I encourage not only native New Mexicans but others to read this work. In doing so, you come to an understanding and a much more respectful view of your family and its origins! When life seems to be going too fast or is chaotic, I will once again read this book and be reminded of what's important!

I have many of Marie Romero Cash's books on the churches and Catholic art work of New Mexico. Her book on the shrines of New Mexico is a beautiful treasure. I highly respect her work as a Santera but did not know what to expect from her story telling. I found the book well written and engaging and it captured my interest immediately. She told a wonderful tale of the Santa Fe of her youth. It gives insight into the cultural traditions and customs of the Santa Fe of her generation and notes the changes over the years. I highly recommend the book to anyone who wishes to have an account of a family life within this historic community.

Charming and interesting chronicle of the author's childhood in the Don Gaspar area of Santa Fe. (We have a house on West Houghton, where the author's childhood home is located (we're a block away on the other side of Galisteo), so it had particular interest for me.)

An interesting biopic about a Hispanic family in Santa Fe - reads like a family history told best by the designated family historian. It's quaint, loving, and intimate portrayal of life in Santa Fe from a unique perspective and I enjoyed it.

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