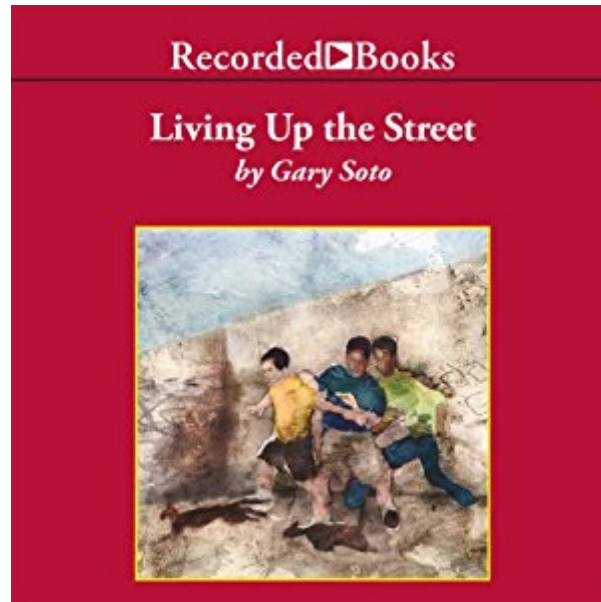




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Living Up The Street



Synopsis

Growing up Mexican-American in Fresno, California in the 1950's and 60's might not have been easy, but it was certainly never boring for young Gary Soto, his brother Rick and sister Debra. As this compilation of 21 short stories and articles illustrates, there is no limit to the amount of fun a child can have, or how much he can terrorize siblings and neighbors if his imagination is active. Whether it's beating the new neighbor kids with bagged cats, or staring into a fan for an hour without blinking while imagining he is a World War I biplane pilot, Soto passes along humorous and compelling life lessons and tales of coming of age. Gary Soto, author of *The Skirt*, teaches creative writing at the University of California, Berkeley. He often writes about what it is like growing up Mexican-American, and has produced two short films for Spanish-speaking children. Stories include: "Being Mean", "Looking for Work", "The Beauty Contest", "Saturday with Jackie", "The Small Faces", "Bloodworth", "One Last Time", "Being Stupid", and "Getting By".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Love Gary Soto. I remember reading this book in college some xx years ago. It is still one of my favs.

I grew up in Michigan in the 50's and found that growing up in Fresno, CA was not much different. Gary Soto describes his childhood in such a way that I could relate, even though I am not Hispanic, his experiences were not unlike mine. No one had any money, unless we searched for pop bottles

to turn in or mowed lawns or had a paper route...and even then it was pennies and dimes, just enough to get us through a week of baseball cards. Soto's childhood was also special for me since I have lived in Fresno the last 30 years and could relate to the locations he would walk or ride to as a kid (even though, the street he grew up on is now a freeway). Somewhat disjointed, but a pure joy to read.

This book is very easy to read. My friend recommended it to me because she knows the author. She said she read it so many times that she ended up buying a second copy, and has loaned out so many times, she will probably have to buy a third book! I could relate to this type of writing because it reminds me a lot of my own childhood. I would recommend it to anyone who likes stories about other people's experiences growing up.

I use this book for a remedial college English course. Many of my students come from lower socioeconomic areas, and relate personally to the stories of a field worker's lifestyle, and the life of children with few resources. Using some of the chapters, students write their own versions based on the titles, such as "Father," and "Fear." Chapters are short enough for absorption while learning to read more closely, and interesting enough to provide the vehicle for improvement in comprehension and more critical thinking. Besides that, Gary Soto is a wonderful writer with California roots, something my students appreciate, too.

Awesome packaging, great price, decent quality. No pages were ripped or written on. Just had a sticker on the front but easily removable.

Great story, beautifully written, easy read.

I LOVE this book even though it was for homework but it was very interesting :)

Good!

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