

# Contents

INTRODUCTION	<i>Mi Fortuna</i>	1
	PART I: GROWING UP	11
CHAPTER 1	From <i>La Isla del Encanto</i> to the Streets of Brooklyn	13
CHAPTER 2	PS 55 <i>Learning English, Learning School</i>	39
CHAPTER 3	JHS 246 <i>Ascent to the Middle Class</i>	59
CHAPTER 4	Erasmus Hall <i>Navigating Adolescence and Identity</i>	77
CHAPTER 5	St. John's University <i>New Friends, New Horizons</i>	95
	PART II: BECOMING AN EDUCATOR	115
CHAPTER 6	NYU <i>Interlude in Spain</i>	117
CHAPTER 7	JHS 178 <i>The First Year of Teaching</i>	129
CHAPTER 8	PS 25 <i>The Bilingual School: ¡Somos Pioneros!</i>	153

CHAPTER 9	Brooklyn College <i>An Activist in Academia</i>	171
CHAPTER 10	UMass and the Che-Lumumba School <i>Learning to “Read the World”</i>	191
	PART III: RESEARCH AND WRITING	207
CHAPTER 11	Life as a Professor	209
CHAPTER 12	<i>Affirming Diversity</i> and Beyond	227
EPILOGUE	<i>Jubilación</i>	251
	References	255
	Acknowledgments	257
	About the Author	261
	Index	263