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# Nerdlandia By Gary Soto

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*Nerdlandia  
By Gary Soto* 2022-06-20

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## **GRAHAM BRONSON**

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### Buried Onions

Chronicle Books

When they learn that  
Rudy Herrera and Alex

Garcia, two fifth-grade class clowns, plan to run against them in the school elections, Miata and her friend Ana know that they face a difficult race.

**Terrible Times**  
Penguin

Boys, let us get up a club. With those words, six restless young men raided the linens at a friend's mansion, pulled pillowcases over their heads, hopped on horses, and cavorted through the streets of Pulaski, Tennessee in 1866. The six friends named their club the Ku Klux Klan, and, all too quickly, their club grew into the self-proclaimed Invisible Empire with secret dens spread across the South. This is the story of how a secret terrorist group took root in America's democracy. Filled with chilling and vivid personal accounts unearthed from oral histories, congressional documents, and diaries, this account from Newbery Honor-winning author Susan Campbell Bartoletti is a

book to read and remember. A YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults Finalist.

Nerdlandia Perfection Learning

In order to look more like his father, Ricky borrows a mustache from a school costume, but when he loses it on the way home his father comes up with a replacement.

*The Skirt* Penguin

A multicultural anthology of poems represents the poetic voices, observations, traditions, and stories of people from some sixty countries around the world.

Cesar Chavez

Houghton Mifflin

Harcourt

From "Worry at the end of the month" to "Good morning, Fresno," Soto writes of the Chicano experience and of life

as all live it.

*A Summer Life* Laurel Leaf

In a prose that is so beautiful it is poetry, we see the world of growing up and going somewhere through the dust and heat of Fresno's industrial side and beyond: It is a boy's coming of age in the barrio, parochial school, attending church, public summer school, and trying to fall out of love so he can join in a Little League baseball team. His is a clarity that rings constantly through the warmth and wry reality of these sometimes humorous, sometimes tragic, always human remembrances.

Big Bushy Mustache  
Penguin

For fans of Gary Soto and Matt de la Peña comes a tale of a

contemporary Mexican-American family with a "spunky and imaginative heroine" (Publishers Weekly).

Miata Ramirez is scared and upset. The skirt she brought to show off at school is gone. She brought her forklórico skirt to show off at school and left it on the bus. It's not just any skirt. This skirt belonged to Miata's mother when she was a child in Mexico. On Sunday, Miata and her dance group are supposed going to dance forklórico, or traditional Mexican folk dances; and that kind of dancing requires a skirt like the one Miata lost. It's Friday afternoon. Miata doesn't want her parents to know she's lost something again. Can she find a way to rescue the precious

skirt in time? With its focus on family ties, friendship, and ethnic pride and Includes an afterword from its acclaimedthe author, The Skirt is a story that children everywhere will relate to and be inspired by, no matter their background. "A light, engaging narrative that successfully combines information on Hispanic culture with familiar and recognizable childhood themes....A fine read-aloud and discussion starter, this story blends cultural differences with human similarities to create both interest and understanding."—SLJ  
 "Light, easy reading . . . offering readers a cast and situations with which to identify, whatever their own ethnic origins."—The

Bulletin "Soto's light tale offers a pleasant blend of family ties, friendship and ethnic pride...[and Miata is] a spunky and imaginative heroine."—Publishers Weekly

The Skirt Turtleback Books

For use in schools and libraries only.

Fourteen-year-old, Mexican-American Lincoln Mendoza spends a summer with a host family in Japan, encountering new experiences and making new friends.

*Pacific Crossing* Laurel Leaf

In thirteen stories full of wit and energy, Gary Soto illuminates the ordinary lives of young people. Meet Angel, who would rather fork over twenty bucks than have photos of his naked body plastered

all over school; Philip, who discovers he has a "mechanical mind," whatever that means; Estela, known as Stinger, who rules Jos's heart and the racquetball court; and many other kids, all of them with problems as big as only a preteen can make them. Funny, touching, and wholly original, *Local News* is Gary Soto in top form. Novio Boy Candlewick Press

Gary Soto writes that when he was five "what I knew best was at ground level." In this lively collection of short essays, Soto takes his reader to a ground-level perspective, resreating in vivid detail the sights, sounds, smells, and textures he knew growing up in his Fresno, California, neighborhood. The

"things" of his boyhood tie it all together: his Buddha "splotched with gold," the taps of his shoes and the "engines of sparks that lived beneath my soles," his worn tennies smelling of "summer grass, asphalt, the moist sock breathing the defeat of basesall." The child's world is made up of small things--small, very important things. Local News Simon and Schuster

A biography of the Mexican American author, Gary Soto, who writes children's books. **El Viejo y Su Puerta** Random House Books for Young Readers

EM"Tell me how to live so many lives at once ..."/em Fowzi, who beats everyone at dominoes; Ibtisam, who wanted to be a doctor; Abu Mahmoud,

who knows every eggplant and peach in his West Bank garden; mysterious Uncle Mohammed, who moved to the mountain; a girl in a red sweater dangling a book bag; children in velvet dresses who haunt the candy bowl at the party; Baba Kamalyari, age 71; Mr. Dajani and his swans; Sitti Khadra, who never lost her peace inside. EMMaybe they have something to tell us./em Naomi Shihab Nye has been writing about being Arab-American, about Jerusalem, about the West Bank, about family all her life. These new and collected poems of the Middle East -- sixty in all -- appear together here for the first time.

**Neighborhood Odes**  
Yearling

This modern classic celebrates the tradition of tamales and family bonding at Christmas. Christmas Eve started out so perfectly for Maria. Snow had fallen and the streets glittered. Maria's favorite cousins were coming over and she got to help make the tamales for Christmas dinner. It was almost too good to be true when her mother left the kitchen for a moment and Maria got to try on her beautiful diamond ring . . . This is the story of a treasure thought to be lost in a batch of tamales; of a desperate and funny attempt by Maria and her cousins to eat their way out of trouble; and the warm way a family pulls together to make it a perfect Christmas after all. Also available

in Spanish as ¡Qué montón de tamales!

### **Off and Running**

Chronicle Books

A hip, funny, Latino rendition of Grease, this play features three cool muchachos who come to the aid of Martin, a chicano nerd who loves a beautiful, popular girl, Ceci, from afar. With the help of his friends, Martin changes his miage and impresses Ceci and her friends, without letting on who he is. This is a problem for Ceci, because, in the meantime, she's transformed herself into a Chicana nert to win the heard of her secret love--Martin. A totally modern, totally cool tale of teenage romance.

### Chato y Su Cena

Harper Collins

Rudy anxiously prepares for and then

goes out on a first date with an attractive girl who is older than he is.

### **Too Many Tamales**

Houghton Mifflin

Harcourt

An exuberant celebration of everyday life from an award-winning team.

### **Crazy Weekend**

HarperCollins

A hip, funny, Latino rendition of Grease, this play features three cool muchachos who come to the aid of Martin, a chicano nerd who loves a beautiful, popular girl, Ceci, from afar. With the help of his friends, Martin changes his miage and impresses Ceci and her friends, without letting on who he is. This is a problem for Ceci, because, in the meantime, she's transformed herself into a Chicana nert to win the heard of her

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Boys at Work Yearling  
 For fans of Gary Soto and Matt de la Peña comes a tale of a contemporary Mexican-American family with a "spunky and imaginative heroine" (Publishers Weekly). Miata Ramirez is scared and upset. The skirt she brought to show off at school is gone. She brought her forklorico skirt to show off at school and left it on the bus. It's not just any skirt. This skirt belonged to Miata's mother when she was a child in Mexico. On Sunday, Miata and her dance group are supposed going to dance forklorico, or traditional Mexican folk dances; and that kind of dancing requires a

skirt like the one Miata lost. It's Friday afternoon. Miata doesn't want her parents to know she's lost something again. Can she find a way to rescue the precious skirt in time? With its focus on family ties, friendship, and ethnic pride and Includes an afterword from its acclaimedthe author, The Skirt is a story that children everywhere will relate to and be inspired by, no matter their background. "A light, engaging narrative that successfully combines information on Hispanic culture with familiar and recognizable childhood themes....A fine read-aloud and discussion starter, this story blends cultural differences with human similarities to create



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*Nerdlandia*  
 Follettbound  
 Lincoln se hab a mudado de un barrio urbano, de San Francisco, a Sycamore,

un suburbio con calles arboladas. Al principio a Lincoln le gust la tranquilidad del nuevo vecindario, pero ahora lo ve a de otra manera. Extra aba su vieja escuela y el murak donde aparec an muchachos morenos, negros y amarillos abraz ndose en actitud amistosa, y extra aba a sus amigos.

Buried Onions Penguin  
 In the final book, Eddie is on board a ship heading for America, but a stowaway and familiar faces from Eddie's past complicate matters, as does being set adrift in a leaky rowboat. Illustrations.