



Pedro Páramo (Wittliff Gallery Series)

By Juan Rulfo, Josephine Sacabo, Margaret Sayers Peden

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Winner, Fred Whitehead Award for the Best Design of a Trade Book from Texas Institute of Letters

Western Books Exhibition Selection, Rounce & Coffin Club, 2003

Deserted villages of rural Mexico, where images and memories of the past linger like unquiet ghosts, haunted the imaginations of two artists—writer Juan Rulfo and photographer Josephine Sacabo. In one such village of the mind, Comala, Rulfo set his classic novel *Pedro Páramo*, a dream-like tale that intertwines a man's quest to find his lost father and reclaim his patrimony with the father's obsessive love for a woman who will not be possessed—Susana San Juan. Recognizing that "Rulfo was describing a world I already knew" and feeling "a very personal response, particularly to Susana San Juan and her dilemma," Josephine Sacabo used Rulfo's novel as the starting point for a series of evocative photographs she calls "The Unreachable World of Susana San Juan: Homage to Juan Rulfo."

This volume brings together Rulfo's novel and Sacabo's photographs to offer a dual artistic vision of the same unforgettable story. Margaret Sayers Peden's superb translation renders the novel as poetic and mysterious in English as it is in Spanish. Josephine Sacabo's photographs tell, in her words, "the story of a woman forced to take refuge in madness as a means of protecting her inner world from the ravages of the forces around her: a cruel and tyrannical patriarchy, a church that offers no redemption, the senseless violence of revolution, death itself."

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Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #416413 in Books
- Published on: 2002-11-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.00" h x .75" w x 8.00" l, 1.91 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 164 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Rulfo's 1955 surrealist novel portrays a man's quest for his Mexican heritage.

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Review

"Octavio Paz has said that Juan Rulfo 'is the only Mexican novelist who has given us an image—instead of just a description—of our landscape.' By the same token we could say that Josephine Sacabo is the only photographer who has given us an image of that most elusive of landscapes conceived by Juan Rulfo—Comala." (*Buenos Aires Herald*)

Language Notes

Text: Spanish

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Molly Cooper:

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