

Download Bird Of Paradise How I Became Latina

Raquel Cepeda

In *Bird of Paradise*, Cepeda utilizes the testimonial approach with great candor and honesty to excavate her painful youth in order to confront it. In her preface to the book she states, "Our identities are as fluid as our personal experiences are diverse." That statement captures the essence of this emotionally-charged memoir. "I applaud Raquel Cepeda's courage and brilliance. This is an important book, shedding light on questions that many of us ask ourselves, but seldom speak about out loud." In 2009, Raquel Cepeda embarked on an exploration of her genealogy using ancestral DNA testing to uncover the truth about her family and the tapestry of races and ethnicities that came together in an ambiguous mix in her features, resulting in "a beautiful story of reconciliation and redemption" (Huffington Post) with her identity and what ...Raquel Cepeda Atria Books, New York, 2013, 215pp., \$25.00, ISBN: 978-1451635867 (hardcover) Timely and extraordinarily original, Raquel Cepeda's ambitious first book draws on the science of ancestral DNA testing to examine what it means to be Black, Native, Dominican and American in an allegedly post-racial society.