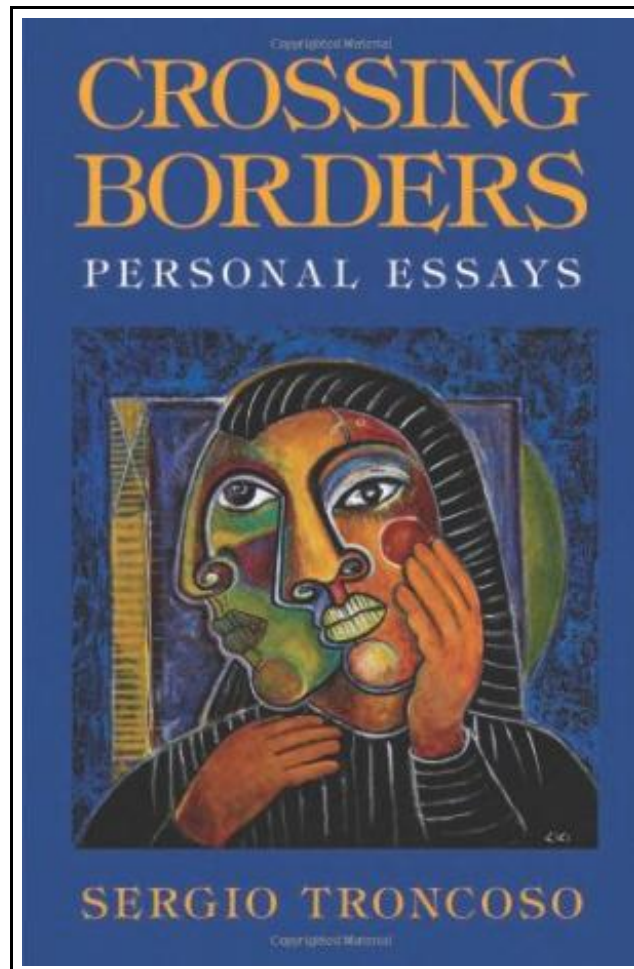


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Arte Publico Pr. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 216 pages. Dimensions: 8.4in. x 5.4in. x 0.6in. Best Books of 2011 by The Hispanic Reader Bronze Award for Essays by ForeWord Reviews Second Place for Best Biography in English by the International Latino Book Awards On good days I feel I am a bridge. On bad days I just feel alone, Sergio Troncoso writes in this riveting collection of sixteen personal essays in which he seeks to connect the humanity of his Mexican family to people he meets on the East Coast, including his wives Jewish kin. Raised in a home steps from the Mexican border in El Paso, Texas, Troncoso crossed what seemed an even more imposing border when he left home to attend Harvard College. Initially, outsider status was thrust upon him; later, he adopted it willingly, writing about the Southwest and Chicanos in an effort to communicate who he was and where he came from to those unfamiliar with his childhood world. He wrote to maintain his ties to his parents and his abuelita, and to fight against the elitism he experienced at an Ivy League school. I was torn, he writes, between the people I loved at home and the ideas I devoured away from home. Troncoso writes to preserve his connections to the past, but he puts pen to paper just as much for the future. In his three-part essay entitled Letter to My Young Sons, he documents the terror of his wives breast cancer diagnosis and the ups and downs of her surgery and treatment. Other essays convey the joys and frustrations of fatherhood, his uneasy relationship with his elderly father and the impact his wives Jewish heritage and religion have on his Mexican-American identity. Crossing Borders: Personal Essays reveals a writer, father and husband who has crossed linguistic,...



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