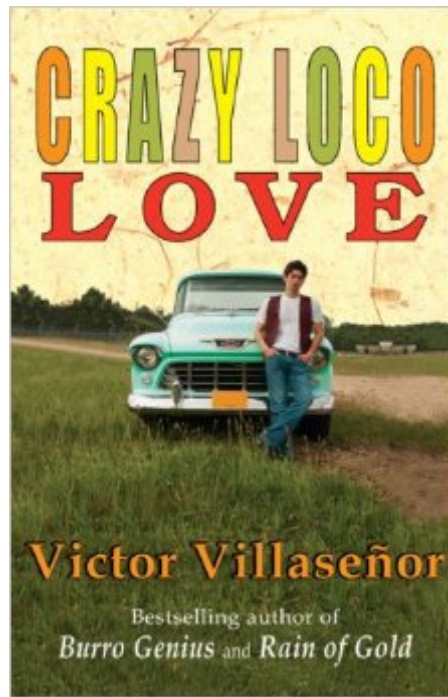


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Crazy Loco Love



Synopsis

From one of America's most beloved writers comes this compelling memoir of his adolescent search for meaning and identity. When Victor Villaseñor turned sixteen, his father's gift of a brand-new, turquoise pick-up truck was accompanied by another gift: words of wisdom that would guide him on his path to manhood. "You are a man now, he said, and to be an hombre, a man must not only know right from wrong, he must also know who he is and who he isn't." In the weeks to come, however, Victor disregards his father's advice. Swayed by his friends' ridicule, he has his new truck painted white to cover the vibrant turquoise, once his favorite color. Soon, he realizes his mistake. "I'd done exactly what my dad had told me not to. I'd listened to other people's opinions instead of listening to what I'd felt inside." So begins this poignant and moving account of Villaseñor's coming of age. Growing up on his parents' ranch in North San Diego County, Victor Villaseñor's teenage years were marked by a painful quest to find a place for himself in a world he didn't fit into. During his search, Victor wrangles with the usual questions of adolescence: Is it normal to think about sex all the time? Do good girls like sex? Is sex before marriage a sin? But Victor struggles with more than just his burgeoning sexual awareness. The son of a self-made, successful man, he is different from his peers because of his Mexican heritage, and he experiences both subtle and outright discrimination because of this. Raised in a tight-knit, Catholic family, he questions the tenets of his faith and the restrictions it places on his own developing spirituality and sexuality. After high school, Victor's quest for who he is and who he isn't takes him to Mexico, where he is shocked to learn that Mexicans aside from his father are successful. They are architects, professors, and artists. Most importantly, he meets an older woman who cultivates in him a deeper understanding of his own intellectual capacity and helps him see the world and his place in it in a whole new way. This experience allows him to appreciate his own potential and realize his dreams of making a difference in the world through writing. A powerful portrait of a young boy on the path to manhood in the shadow of his influential father, *Crazy Loco Love* adds a new chapter to the grand tradition of coming-of-age books. Destined to become a classic, this new installment in Villaseñor's body of work confirms his place as a leading American writer. *Crazy Loco Love* will enthrall his many fans and surely win him new ones.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I couldn't wait for Crazyloco Love! I had been expecting it since last year! I just got it on Friday and I'm almost done with it. I am amazed by Victor Villasenor's honesty about his adolescent life. Most people would not bring out the skeletons in their closet, but Victor has no qualms about it and that is what I love the most about his books. He is by far my most favorite author ever! I highly recommend this and every other book written by Mr. Villasenor. Edited to add... I finished the book last night and I LOVED it! So now what's next, eh Victor? :-)

I love this author!!! This book is great reading for all, but especially for males - whether fathers or sons. He is so honest and blunt and yet seeks to find meaning in all that he has experienced. I made my husband read it and he couldn't put it down. There is so much to ponder for fathers and their own relationships with their sons. Would recommend this book to all. His unique style of writing flows through all of his books. For those who are familiar with this style, you will feel like you are welcoming back a new friend. And for those who aren't, get ready to experience a simple, yet profound style that sets Villasenor apart from all other authors. Don't read to critic this book, just read and enjoy the ride!

This book was so good, I am now reading it to my three sons so that they may grasp some of the life lessons Villasenor had to learn. I enjoyed this book a great deal and would HIGHLY recommend it to others. I am glad my Too Jerry recommended it to me! I hope you enjoy in as much as I did!

I belong to a book club and probably wouldn't have picked this book on my own....however, it was a fantastic choice! This book gives you a real roller coaster ride through the young life of Victor

Vallasenor, sometimes I hated it, most of the time I loved it!

What first caught my attention about Crazy Loco Love was that it was a book about a teen from a strict religious upbringing dealing with raging hormones. This situation I could relate well, being a Mormon! What I found was this and so much more! This book had me riveted from beginning to end. The mysteries and characters Victor encountered had me hungry to find out what would happen next. And the discoveries he made opened up for me a whole new understanding of my faith. Yes, at times it was explicit, but in ways that were so true!

I loved all of Victor Villaseñor's books but this one reads more like a motivational talk than a memoir. The constant use of words in bold capitalizations was annoying. (the reader understands the concept of "screaming" just as well as "SCREAMING". I lost count of the times he used the words "crazy loco". The story felt patched and cobbled together as though he didn't really have much to work with. Skip this book and read Rain Of Gold.

I am now a huge fan of Victor Villaseñor!! His books are nothing less than Inspiring. The first book I read was Burro genius and I was hooked. A good friend recommended Victor's books to me and I'm glad he did. Victor Villaseñor is a genius at painting a picture with his writing.

Crazy Loco Love is another installment in the saga that, luckily for us, Victor Villaseñor is passing on to the reading public. This novel is in some ways different from his others but is, as always, fascinating. Villaseñor is a story teller and again he tells a grand one, this time of the conflicts that a Mexican American adolescent and young adult faces as he tries to find his place in the Chicano world. It is some times wild and crazy, the loco vida, and at times introspective. He can make the reader cringe as he describes the pain he has felt. He also can make the reader feel hope that even in spite of all difficulties he -- and we-- can find a good place to be at peace. I highly recommend this book.

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