



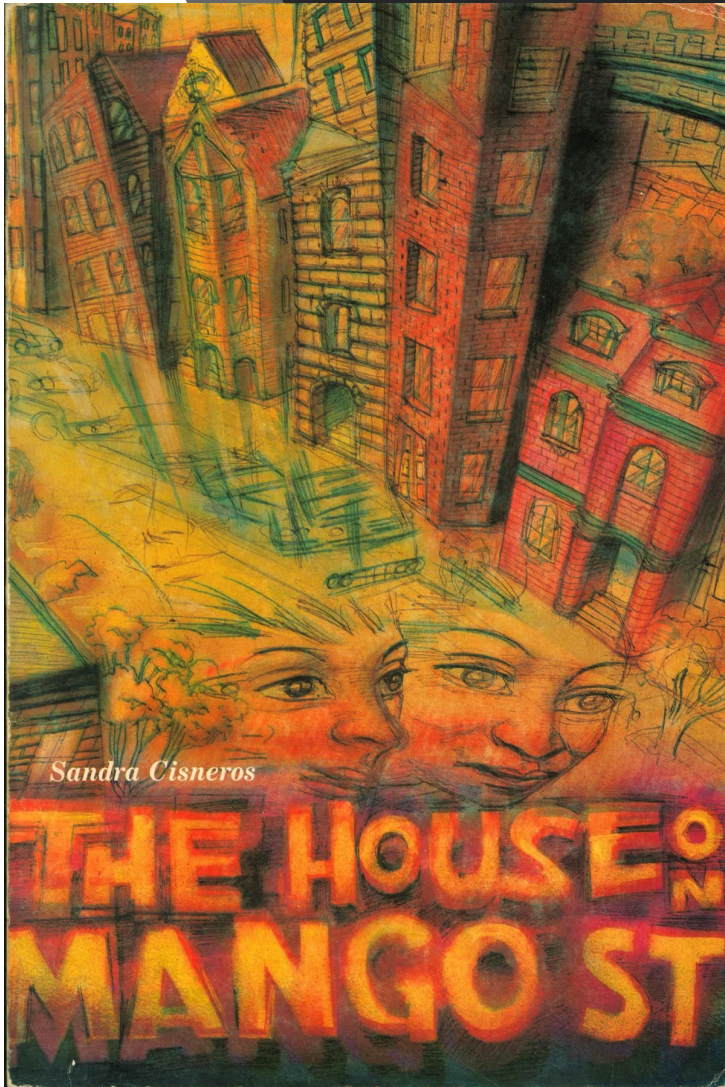
**SPAN322:  
“North of the Río Grande”  
US Latino/Chicano  
Literature**

*The House on Mango Street I*  
March 24, 2020

# THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET

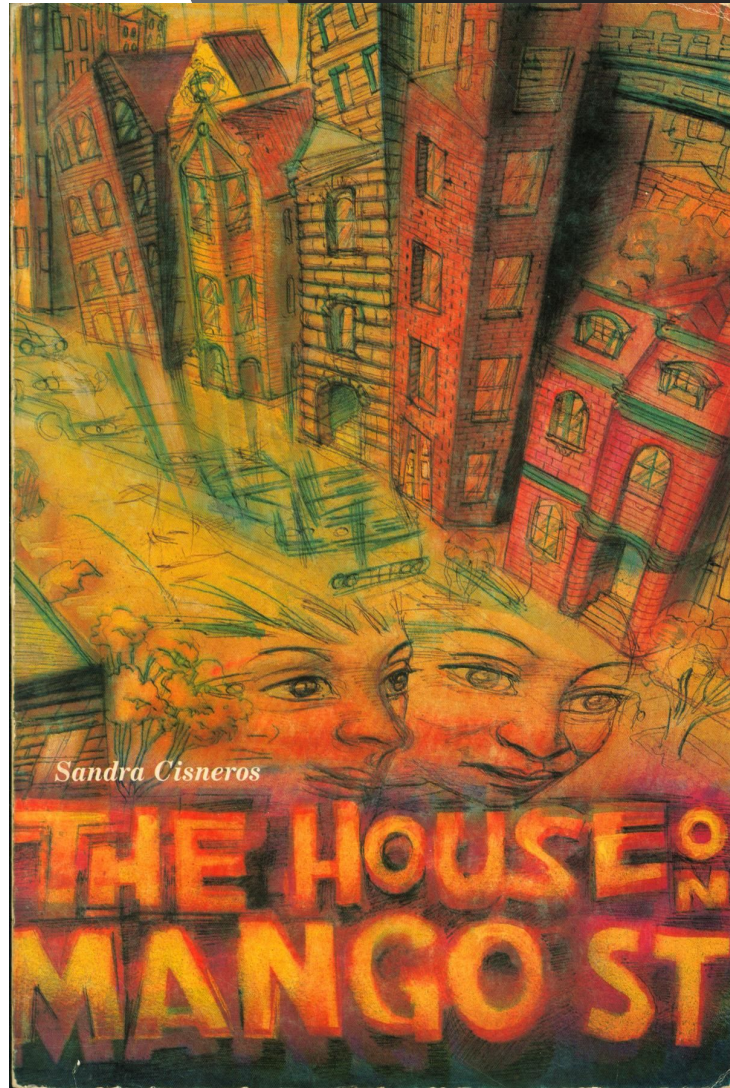
# *The House on Mango Street*

- By Sandra Cisneros (1954-),
- A(nother) autobiographical coming-of-age novel, but from a girl's perspective and set in Chicago; published 1983
- Structured as a loosely-connected series of vignettes
- “A classic story of childhood and self-discovery”



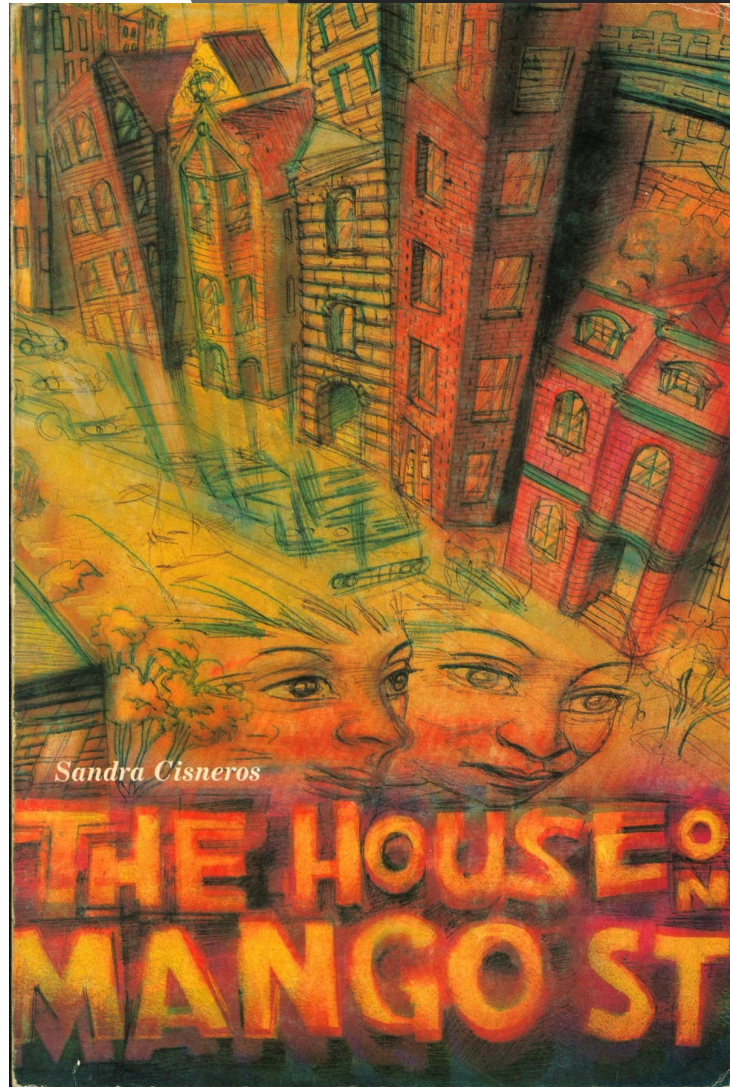


# *The House on Mango Street*




- How is this book different from and/or similar to the others?
- What difference does a female protagonist make?
- How does it portray growing up Chicana?
- How does its style (or form) affect our understanding of it?
- What is the book's *tone*? Is it at odds with its content?
- What is the book's temporality? How does it structure or approach time?
- What is its spatiality? How does it present a sense of space?

# *The House on Mango Street*



- Why are there so many characters? What is Esperanza's relationship to them?
- What does the book have to say about identity? And belonging?
- What does it say about the writer's responsibility?
- What is the role of affect in the book?
- What, specifically, does it say about shame (and pride)?

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- A decorative graphic in the top-left corner of the slide, consisting of two parallel diagonal stripes. The inner stripe is a medium gray, and the outer stripe is a darker gray. They both originate from the top-left corner and extend towards the bottom-right, with the outer stripe being slightly longer and wider.
- What might this book (or the others we are reading) have to say to our current condition?
  - We see the reassertion of borders and the prohibition of mobility, on both global and local scales.
  - Fear and anxiety have become dominant affects, almost overwhelmingly.
  - There is a fear of contamination, of infection, from both people and objects.

**NEXT STEPS**

# For Thursday

- Make substantial edits on Wikipedia.
- Write brief comments on two of your classmates' blog posts. Especially on Blogger, make sure you sign them.