



# The Maid's Daughter: Living Inside and Outside the American Dream

*Mary Romero*

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**The Maid's Daughter: Living Inside and Outside the American Dream** Mary Romero  
**2012 Americo Paredes Book Award Winner for Non-Fiction presented by the Center for Mexican American Studies at South Texas College**

**Selected as a 2012 Outstanding Title by AAUP University Press Books for Public and Secondary School Libraries**

This is Olivia's story. Born in Los Angeles, she is taken to Mexico to live with her extended family until the age of three. Olivia then returns to L.A. to live with her mother, Carmen, the live-in maid to a wealthy family. Mother and daughter sleep in the maid's room, just off the kitchen. Olivia is raised alongside the other children of the family. She goes to school with them, eats meals with them, and is taken shopping for clothes with them. She is like a member of the family. Except she is not. Based on over twenty years of research, noted scholar Mary Romero brings Olivia's remarkable story to life. We watch as she grows up among the children of privilege, struggles through adolescence, declares her independence and eventually goes off to college and becomes a successful professional. Much of this extraordinary story is told in Olivia's voice and we hear of both her triumphs and setbacks. We come to understand the painful realization of wanting to claim a Mexican heritage that is in many ways not her own and of her constant struggle to come to terms with the great contradictions in her life.

In *The Maid's Daughter*, Mary Romero explores this complex story about belonging, identity, and resistance, illustrating Olivia's challenge to establish her sense of identity, and the patterns of inclusion and exclusion in her life. Romero points to the hidden costs of paid domestic labor that are transferred to the families of private household workers and nannies, and shows how everyday routines are important in maintaining and assuring that various forms of privilege are passed on from one generation to another. Through Olivia's story, Romero shows how mythologies of meritocracy, the land of opportunity, and the American dream remain firmly in place while simultaneously erasing injustices and the struggles of the working poor.

A happy ending for the maid's daughter: Hector Tobar's profile of Olivia for the *LA Times*

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Playing with family within a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love The Maid's Daughter: Living Inside and Outside the American Dream, you can enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout people. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

#### **Silvia Doucet:**

The book untitled The Maid's Daughter: Living Inside and Outside the American Dream contain a lot of information on the idea. The writer explains the woman idea with easy approach. The language is very clear and understandable all the people, so do definitely not worry, you can easy to read this. The book was written by famous author. The author gives you in the new period of time of literary works. You can actually read this book because you can read on your smart phone, or program, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can start their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice go through.

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