

Delve Deeper into *No Le Digas a Nadie (Don't Tell Anyone)*

A film by Mikaela Shwer

This list of fiction and nonfiction books, compiled by Christine Miller of the San Diego Public Library, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the POV documentary *No Le Digas a Nadie (Don't Tell Anyone)*.

In a community where silence is seen as necessary for survival, immigrant activist Angy Rivera joins a generation of Dreamers ready to push for change in the only home she's ever known — the United States. Hers is the quintessential American success story: Angy is the author of the country's first and only advice column for undocumented youth, and her YouTube channel boasts over 27,000 views as she comes out of the shadows to inspire her peers.

ADULT NONFICTION

Truax, Eileen. *Dreamers: An Immigrant Generation's Fight for Their American Dream*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2015. Of the approximately twelve million undocumented immigrants living in the United States, as many as two million came as children. But recently, this young generation has begun organizing, and with their rallying cry "Undocumented, Unapologetic, and Unafraid" they are the newest face of the human rights movement.

Regan, Margaret. *Detained and Deported: Stories of Immigrant Families Under Fire*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2015. The United States is detaining and deporting undocumented immigrants at a rate never before seen in American history. Hundreds of thousands languish in immigration detention centers, separated from their families, sometimes for years. Many of the deported have lived in the United States for years, and have U.S. citizen children; despite the legal consequences, many cross the border again.

Chomsky, Aviva. *Undocumented: How*

***Immigration Became Illegal*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2014.** This book looks at the role illegality or undocumentedness plays in our society and economy. It shows how the status was created, and how and why people, especially Mexicans and Central Americans, have been assigned this status.

Cafaro, Philip. *How Many Is Too Many?: The Progressive Argument for Reducing Immigration Into the United States*. Chicago; London: The University of Chicago Press, 2015. Keeping in mind progressive political goals, Cafaro, illustrates a plan for immigration reform. He argues against modern mass immigration citing, human rights, the increase in economic inequality and environmental concerns.

***Rallying for Immigrant Rights: The Fight for Inclusion in 21st century America*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2011.** From Alaska to Florida, millions of immigrants and their supporters took to the streets across the United States to rally for immigrant rights in the spring of 2006. The scope and size of their protests, rallies, and boy-cotts made these the most significant events of political activism in the United States since the 1960s.

Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald). *A Nation of Immigrants*. New York, NY: Harper and Row, 1964. Throughout his presidency, John F. Kennedy was passionate about the issue of immigration reform. He believed that America is a nation of people who value both tradition and the exploration of new frontiers, people who deserve the freedom to build better lives for themselves in their adopted homeland.
<http://archive.adl.org/immigrants/#.VfnLH99Vikp>

Rodriguez, Gregory. *Mongrels, Bastards,*

***Orphans, and Vagabonds: Mexican Immigration and the Future of Race in America*. New York: Pantheon Books, 2007.** A study of America's largest immigrant group reflects on the complexities of Mexican-American heritage, as well as on the long-term cultural, economic, and political influence of Mexican Americans on the character of America.

Gagne, Tammy. *Your Guide to Becoming a US Citizen*. Hockessin, DE: Mitchell Lane Publishers, 2014. This book presents a guide for immigrants going through the process of becoming U.S. citizens, covering topics such as the application process and which tests will need to be passed.

ADULT FICTION

***Growing Up Ethnic in America: Contemporary Fiction About Learning to Be American*. New York: Penguin Books, 1999.** With humor, passion, and grace, the contributors lay bare poignant attempts at conformity and the alienation sometimes experienced by ethnic Americans. But they also tell of the strength gained through the preservation of their communities, and the realization that it was often their difference from the norm that helped them to succeed.

Cather, Willa. *My Ántonia*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1918. After the death of her immigrant father, Antonia works as a servant for neighbors in the farmlands of Nebraska. She leaves for an unfortunate affair with an Irish railway conductor, but returns home, eventually marries and raises a large family in true pioneer style.

Cisneros, Sandra. *The House on Mango Street*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991. For Esperanza, a young girl growing up in the Hispanic quarter of Chicago, life is an endless landscape of concrete and run-



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down tenements, and she tries to rise above the hopelessness.

Tan, Amy. *The Joy Luck Club*. New York: Putnam's 1989. After being drawn together by the shadows of their past, four women start meeting every week in San Francisco to engage in hobbies they all enjoy. When one of the four members of the Joy Luck Club dies after 40 years of meetings, her American-born daughter takes her place, learning some astonishing truths about her mother's life in China and discovering the value of tradition.

Crane, Stephen. *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*. Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books 1995, c1893. The harrowing story of a young girl living in the slums of New York City, addressing the issues faced by Irish immigrants to America.

NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

***Paint Me Like I Am: Teen Poems from WritersCorps*. New York: HarperTempest, 2003.** The diverse voices of teens from San Francisco, Washington, DC, and the Bronx are brought together in a collection of poems written by teens who have taken part in writing programs run by a national nonprofit organization. The young people have a lot to say about race, drugs, abuse, and self-image, as seen in these honest and sometimes raw poems.

Bjorklund, Ruth. *Immigration*. New York: Marshall Cavendish Benchmark, 2012. Have our present immigration laws run their course? Should America's doors stay open to so many newcomers-- or should we reconsider the impact of immigrants on native resources and employment opportunities? Examine the pros and cons of immigrations law and attitudes, and how they affect America's way of life and cultural identity.

Barbour, Scott. *Does Illegal Immigration Harm Society?* San Diego, CA: ReferencePoint Press, 2010. What are the origins of the illegal immigration controversy? -- Does illegal immigration harm the American economy? -- Does illegal immigration harm American culture? -- Does illegal immigration lead to increased crime and terrorism? -- How should the government respond to illegal immigration?

***First Crossing: Stories About Teen Immigrants*. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2004.** Stories of recent Mexican, Venezuelan, Kazakh, Chinese, Romanian, Palestinian, Swedish, Korean, Haitian, and Cambodian immigrants reveal what it is like to face prejudice, language barriers, and home-sickness along with common teenage feelings and needs.

Harrison, Geoffrey. *New Americans*. Chicago, IL: Norwood House Press, 2014. This informational text uses a historical framework to discuss issues surrounding immigration. Sections include opinions from notable Americans on various sides of the issue followed by encouragement for readers to analyze each opinion.

Leavitt, Amie Jane. *The Bill of Rights in Translation: What It Really Means*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2009. The author presents the Bill of Rights in both its original version and in a translated version using everyday language, and describes the events that led to the creation of the document and its significance through history.

FICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Spiegelman, Art. *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1997. A son struggles to come to terms with the horrific story of his parents and their experiences during the Holocaust and in postwar America in this Pulitzer Prize-winning best-seller.

Budhos, Marina Tamar. *Ask Me No Questions*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2006. Fourteen-year-old Nadira, her sister, and their parents leave Bangladesh for New York City, but the expiration of their visas and the events of September 11, 2001, bring frustration, sorrow, and terror for the whole family.

Restrepo, Bettina. *Illegal*. New York: Katherine Tegen Books, 2011. Nora's beloved Papa has been working illegally on a construction site in Texas and sending money back home. But when the letters and money stop coming, Nora and Mama leave family behind and set out to find him. After being smuggled across the border in a stifling, packed mango truck, they struggle to survive with false papers in Houston, where they find no work. And no Papa.

Alvarez, Julia. *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents*. Chapel Hill, NC: Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 1991. This sensitive story of four sisters who must adjust to life in America after having to flee from the Dominican Republic is told through a series of episodes beginning in adulthood, when their lives have been shaped by U. S. mores, and moving backwards to their wealthy childhood on the island.

Andreu, Maria E. *The Secret Side of Empty*. Philadelphia: RP Teens, 2014. As her friends make plans for life after high school, M.T. struggles to envision her future as an undocumented immigrant and becomes determined to make a life for herself in the only place she has ever known as home.

Senzai, N. H. *Shooting Kabul*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2010. Escaping from Taliban-controlled Afghanistan in the summer of 2001, eleven-year-old Fadi and his family immigrate to the San Francisco Bay Area, where Fadi schemes to return to the refugee camp where his little sister was accidentally left behind.

