

# Gary Soto Desire

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Gary Soto Ron McFarland 2022-08-08 In a 1995 interview, prolific Chicano writer Gary Soto noted, "Wonderment has always been a part of my life." This book surveys Soto's immense range of poems, stories, novels, essays and plays for audiences of prereaders to adults. Soto's world moves from the cotton and beet fields of the San Joaquin Valley to the blue-collar barrios of Fresno, and to urban and suburban settings in Oakland and Berkeley. Chapters analyze a wide variety of Soto titles, from his breakout works like 1977's *The Elements of San Joaquin* to the *Chato the Cat* illustrated books for children. With self-deprecating humor, particularly in his poems, Soto combines his wonderment with the trials and conflicts that beset him throughout life. In such novels as *Jesse*, *Buried Onions* and *The Afterlife*, and in his stories for YA readers, including *Baseball in April* and *Petty Crimes*, his broad array of characters confront the anxieties and annoyances of adolescence. Although he continues to motivate young Chicanos to read and write, Soto stakes his greatest claims to literary prominence through his poems, which are accessible to readers of all ages.

**Mercy on These Teenage Chimps** Gary Soto 2008-03-01 At age thirteen, best friends Ronnie and Joey suddenly feel like chimps--long armed, big eared, and gangly--and when the coach humiliates Joey in front of a girl, he climbs up a tree and refuses to come down, forcing Ronnie to court the girl on his behalf. Reprint.

*Buried Onions* Gary Soto 2006 When nineteen-year-old Eddie drops out of college, he struggles to find a place for himself as a Mexican American living in a violence-infested neighborhood of Fresno, California.

**Growing Up** Russell Baker 2011-09-06 The Pulitzer Prize-winning memoir about coming of age in America between the world wars: "So warm, so likable and so disarmingly funny" (*The New York Times*). Ranging from the backwoods of Virginia to a New Jersey commuter town to the city of Baltimore, this remarkable memoir recounts Russell Baker's experience of growing up in pre-World War II America, before he went on to a celebrated career in journalism. With poignant, humorous tales of powerful love, awkward sex, and courage in the face of adversity, Baker reveals how he helped his mother and family through the Great Depression by delivering papers and hustling subscriptions to the *Saturday Evening Post*—a job which introduced him to bullies, mentors, and heroes who endured this national disaster with hard work and good cheer. Called "a treasure" by Anne Tyler and "a blessing" by *Time* magazine, this autobiography is a modern-day classic—"a wondrous book [with scenes] as funny and

touching as Mark Twain's" (Los Angeles Times Book Review). "In lovely, haunting prose, he has told a story that is deeply in the American grain." —The Washington Post Book World "A terrific book." —St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Local News Gary Soto 2003 A collection of thirteen short stories about the everyday lives of Mexican American young people in California's Central Valley.

*The Old Man and His Door* Gary Soto 1998-10-26 Who would bring the door, la puerta, to a picnic instead of the pig, el puerco? An old man who's great at gardening but lousy at listening to his wife! "In the universal tradition of the wise-fool story, this gentle disaster tale is funny and affectionate....The combination is great for reading aloud." -- Booklist "Cepeda makes brilliant use of color, form, and perspective to add humor to the work. It's a story children will want to retell themselves." -- Kirkus Reviews

**Snapshots from the Wedding** Gary Soto 1997 Maya, the flower girl, describes a Mexican American wedding through snapshots of the day's events, beginning with the procession to the altar and ending with her sleeping after the dance.

*Baseball in April and Other Stories* Gary Soto 1990 A collection of eleven short stories focuses on the everyday adventures of Hispanic young people growing up in Fresno, California. Teacher's Guide available. Simultaneous.

**Summer on Wheels** Gary Soto 1995 Hector and his best friend Mondo enjoy many exciting adventures when they take a six-day bike trip from their East Los Angeles neighborhood to the Santa Monica beach during summer vacation.

**Pacific Crossing** Gary Soto 1992 Fourteen-year-old Mexican American Lincoln Mendoza spends a summer with a host family in Japan, encountering new experiences and making new friends.

**You Kiss by th' Book** Gary Soto 2016-03-22 In his engaging new collection, National Book Award finalist Gary Soto creates poems that each begin with a line from Shakespeare and then continue in Soto's fresh and accessible verse. Drawing on moments from the sonnets, Hamlet, Macbeth, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Romeo and Juliet, and others, Soto illuminates aspects of the source material while taking his poems in directions of their own, strategically employing the color of "thee" and "thine," kings, thieves, and lovers. The results are inspired, by turns meditative, playful, and moving, and consistently fascinating for the conversation they create between the Bard's time and language and our own here and now.

**The Skirt** Gary Soto 2012-11-28 For fans of Gary Soto and Matt de la Peña comes a tale of a contemporary Mexican-American family with a "spunky and imaginative heroine" (Publishers Weekly). Miata Ramirez is scared and upset. The skirt she brought to show off at school is gone. She brought her forklórico skirt to show off at school and left it on the bus. It's not just any skirt. This skirt belonged to Miata's mother when she was a child in Mexico. On Sunday, Miata and her dance group are supposed to go to dance forklórico, or traditional Mexican folk dances; and that kind of dancing requires a skirt like the one Miata lost. It's Friday afternoon. Miata doesn't want her parents to know she's lost something again. Can she find a way to

rescue the precious skirt in time? With its focus on family ties, friendship, and ethnic pride and Includes an afterword from its acclaimed author, *The Skirt* is a story that children everywhere will relate to and be inspired by, no matter their background. "A light, engaging narrative that successfully combines information on Hispanic culture with familiar and recognizable childhood themes....A fine read-aloud and discussion starter, this story blends cultural differences with human similarities to create both interest and understanding."—SLJ "Light, easy reading . . . offering readers a cast and situations with which to identify, whatever their own ethnic origins."—*The Bulletin* "Soto's light tale offers a pleasant blend of family ties, friendship and ethnic pride...[and Miata is] a spunky and imaginative heroine."—*Publishers Weekly*

**A Study Guide for Gary Soto's "Small Town with One Road"** Gale, Cengage Learning 2016 A Study Guide for Gary Soto's "Small Town with One Road," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Poetry for Students*. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Poetry for Students* for all of your research needs.

*Living Up The Street* Gary Soto 2012-06-27 In a prose that is so beautiful it is poetry, we see the world of growing up and going somewhere through the dust and heat of Fresno's industrial side and beyond: It is a boy's coming of age in the barrio, parochial school, attending church, public summer school, and trying to fall out of love so he can join in a Little League baseball team. His is a clarity that rings constantly through the warmth and wry reality of these sometimes humorous, sometimes tragic, always human remembrances.

**A Summer Life** Gary Soto 1991-08-01 Gary Soto writes that when he was five "what I knew best was at ground level." In this lively collection of short essays, Soto takes his reader to a ground-level perspective, resreating in vivid detail the sights, sounds, smells, and textures he knew growing up in his Fresno, California, neighborhood. The "things" of his boyhood tie it all together: his Buddha "splotted with gold," the taps of his shoes and the "engines of sparks that lived beneath my soles," his worn tennies smelling of "summer grass, asphalt, the moist sock breathing the defeat of basesall." The child's world is made up of small things--small, very important things.

**Gary Soto** Tamra B. Orr 2004-12-15 Discusses the life and work of the Mexican American author, including his writing process, themes, and a critical discussion of his books.

*The Cat's Meow* Gary Soto 1997 Eight-year-old Nicole, who is part Mexican, is amazed when her cat Pip starts speaking in Spanish.

**Passionate Hearts** Wendy Maltz 2006-12-08 Structured to parallel the course of a loving, intimate relationship, a selection of poetry by such authors as Gary Soto, e. e. cummings, and Marge Piercy traces and celebrates sexual intimacy and spiritual union. 20,000 first printing. IP.

*Seriously Funny* Barbara Hamby 2010 Can serious poetry be funny? Chaucer and Shakespeare would say yes, and so do the authors of these 187 poems that address timeless concerns but that also include comic elements. Beginning with the Beats and the New York

School and continuing with both marquee-name poets and newcomers, *Seriously Funny* ranges from poems that are capsized by their own tomfoolery to those that glow with quiet wit to ones in which a laugh erupts in the midst of terrible darkness. Most of the selections were made in the editors' battered compact car, otherwise known as the *Seriously Funny Mobile Unit*. During the two years in which Barbara Hamby and David Kirby made their choices, they'd set out with a couple of boxes of books in the back seat, and whoever wasn't driving read to the other. When they found that a poem made both of them think but laugh as well, they earmarked it. Readers will find a true generosity in these poems, an eagerness to share ideas and emotions and also to entertain. The singer Ali Farka Tour said that honey is never good when it's only in one mouth, and the editors of *Seriously Funny* hope its readers find much to share with others.

Local News Gary Soto 1993 A collection of thirteen short stories about the everyday lives of Mexican American young people in California's Central Valley.

*"Cat Person" and Other Stories* Kristen Roupenian 2019-01-15 FEATURING A BRAND NEW STORY "What's special about 'Cat Person,' and the rest of the stories in *You Know You Want This*, is the author's expert control of language, character, story—her ability to write stories that feel told, and yet so unpretentious and accessible that we think they must be true."  
—The New York Times Book Review "Kristen Roupenian isn't just an uncannily great writer, she also knows things about the human psyche—things that I always supposed I would learn at some point, but never did...The world has made a lot more sense since reading this book."  
—Miranda July, New York Times bestselling author "If you think you know what this collection will be like, you're wrong. These stories are sharp and perverse, dark and bizarre, unrelenting and utterly bananas. I love them so, so much." —Carmen Maria Machado, National Book Award Finalist and author of *Her Body and Other Parties* A compulsively readable collection of short stories that explore the complex—and often darkly funny—connections between gender, sex, and power across genres. Previously published as *You Know You Want This*, *"Cat Person" and Other Stories* brilliantly explores the ways in which women are horrifying as much as it captures the horrors that are done to them. Among its pages are a couple who becomes obsessed with their friend hearing them have sex, then seeing them have sex...until they can't have sex without him; a ten-year-old whose birthday party takes a sinister turn when she wishes for "something mean"; a woman who finds a book of spells half hidden at the library and summons her heart's desire: a nameless, naked man; and a self-proclaimed "biter" who dreams of sneaking up behind and sinking her teeth into a green-eyed, long-haired, pink-cheeked coworker. Spanning a range of genres and topics—from the mundane to the murderous and supernatural—these are stories about sex and punishment, guilt and anger, the pleasure and terror of inflicting and experiencing pain. These stories fascinate and repel, revolt and arouse, scare and delight in equal measure. And, as a collection, they point a finger at you, daring you to feel uncomfortable—or worse, understood—as if to say, "You want this, right? You know you want this."

**Taking Sides** Gary Soto 1991 Fourteen-year-old Lincoln Mendoza, an aspiring basketball player, must come to terms with his divided loyalties when he moves from the Hispanic inner city to a white suburban neighborhood.

*Something Cloudy, Something Clear* Tennessee Williams 1996-09-17 Tennessee Williams returns to a pivotal moment in his stormy youth in *Something Cloudy, Something Clear*,

which introducer Eve Adamson calls "a delicately woven tapestry of past and present, vulnerability and toughness, impetuous action and mature insight." *Something Cloudy, Something Clear* is, as Tennessee Williams stated, "one of the most personal plays I've ever written." Set in Provincetown, Cape Cod, in 1940, the play records Williams' experiences during that "pivotal summer when I took sort of a crash course in growing up." On the brink of becoming a successful playwright, Williams was also to "come thoroughly out of the closet" and meet Kip, his first great love. *Something Cloudy, Something Clear* brilliantly reimagines that long ago time, now recollected through the filter of all the playwright's successes and failures, joys and regrets. Eve Adamson, director of the original 1981 production, provides an insightful introduction in which she captures the play's heart-breaking appeal: "It is a delicately woven tapestry of past and present, vulnerability and toughness, impetuous action and mature insight. It seeks a reconciliation between love and art, life and death, and-to use two phrases which recur in the play--exigencies of desperation and negotiation of terms. The cloudy and the clear."

*The Elements of San Joaquin* Gary Soto 2018-04-03 Expanded from the award-winning Chicano poet's 1977 original, this poetry collection explores the hardships and joys of migrant workers in California. A timely new edition of a pioneering work in Latino literature, National Book Award-nominee Gary Soto's first collection (originally published in 1977) draws on California's fertile San Joaquin Valley, the people, the place, and the hard agricultural work done there by immigrants. In these poems, joy and anger, violence and hope are placed in both the metaphorical and very real circumstances of the Valley. Rooted in personal experiences—of the poet as a young man, his friends, family, and neighbors—the poems are spare but expansive, with Soto's voice as important as ever. This welcome new edition has been expanded with a crucial selection of complementary poems (some previously unpublished) and a new introduction by the author. Praise for *The Elements of San Joaquin* "A response to the charged, ideologically defiant voices from the seventies, *The Elements of San Joaquin* forever changed the course of Latino literature, redirecting us toward the mundane and ephemeral. The poet's only commitment, Gary Soto seemed to suggest, is to life itself. His teacher and role model was Philip Levine, who encouraged him to see his own neighborhood, indeed his own backyard, as a kingdom. The result was a type of poetry that weathered inclement times in ways that scores of other instant "hits" couldn't. It was new yet as old as the Bible and it still is. The word "classic" is overused these days. Not in this case." —Ilan Stavans, Lewis-Sebring Professor in the Humanities, Latin American and Latino Culture at Amherst College, and general editor of *The Norton Anthology of Latino Literature* "In the original *The Elements of San Joaquin*, Gary Soto defined the Chicano character as an underrepresented part of the American whole, the identity that would serve as foundation for my life's work. My parents and grandparents had crossed borders, but Soto rooted me, us, here—in the daily poverty of mejicano vecindades—on all those rural "Braly Streets" of Fresno, Brawley, and Salinas. His elements of sun, wind, stars, and field shadowed my own destiny to bring justice there, to the people of the hoe and harvest." —José Padilla, Executive Director of California Rural Legal Assistance

**Where Sparrows Work Hard** Gary Soto 1981

**American Poetry Index** 1988

[Nerdlandia](#) Gary Soto 1999-07-19 A hip, funny, Latino rendition of *Grease*, this play features

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three cool muchachos who come to the aid of Martin, a chicano nerd who loves a beautiful, popular girl, Ceci, from afar. With the help of his friends, Martin changes his miage and impresses Ceci and her friends, without letting on who he is. This is a problem for Ceci, because, in the meantime, she's transformed herself into a Chicana nert to win the heard of her secret love--Martin. A totally modern, totally cool tale of teenage romance.

Cool Salsa Lori Marie Carlson 1994-07-15 Growing up Latino in America means speaking two languages, living two lives, learning the rules of two cultures. Cool Salsa celebrates the tones, rhythms, sounds, and experiences of that double life. Here are poems about families and parties, insults and sad memories, hot dogs and mangos, the sweet syllables of Spanish and the snag-toothed traps of English. Here is the glory, and pain, of being Latino American. Latino Americans hail from Cuba and California, Mexico and Michigan, Nicaragua and New York, and editor Lori M. Carlson has made sure to capture all of those accents. With poets such as Sandra Cisneros, Martín Espada, Gary Soto, and Ed Vega, and a very personal introduction by Oscar Hijuelos, this collection encompasses the voices of Latino America. By selecting poems about the experiences of teenagers, Carlson has given a focus to that rich diversity; by presenting the poems both in their original language and in translation, she has made them available to us all. As you move from memories of red wagons, to dreams of orange trees, to fights with street gangs, you feel Cool Salsa's musical and emotional cross rhythms. Here is a world of exciting poetry for you, y tú también.

**Too Many Tamales** Gary Soto 1996-08-08 This modern classic celebrates the tradition of tamales and family bonding at Christmas. Christmas Eve started out so perfectly for Maria. Snow had fallen and the streets glittered. Maria's favorite cousins were coming over and she got to help make the tamales for Christmas dinner. It was almost too good to be true when her mother left the kitchen for a moment and Maria got to try on her beautiful diamond ring . . . This is the story of a treasure thought to be lost in a batch of tamales; of a desperate and funny attempt by Maria and her cousins to eat their way out of trouble; and the warm way a family pulls together to make it a perfect Christmas after all. Also available in Spanish as ¡Qué montón de tamales!

**A Study Guide for Gary Soto's "Mother and Daughter"** Gale, Cengage 2018-09-13 A Study Guide for Gary Soto's "Mother and Daughter", excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Short Stories for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Short Stories for Students for all of your research needs.

**If the Shoe Fits** Jane B. Mason 2004-06-01 With her feet bare and her second-hand gown splattered with mud, Ella's first day of Princess School is off to a lousy start. If she can only find her fairy godmother before the first class begins, Ella is sure she'll put things right.

**Desiring the Kingdom (Cultural Liturgies)** James K. A. Smith 2009-08-01 Malls, stadiums, and universities are actually liturgical structures that influence and shape our thoughts and affections. Humans--as Augustine noted--are "desiring agents," full of longings and passions; in brief, we are what we love. James K. A. Smith focuses on the themes of liturgy and desire in *Desiring the Kingdom*, the first book in what will be a three-volume set on the theology of culture. He redirects our yearnings to focus on the greatest good: God. Ultimately, Smith

seeks to re-vision education through the process and practice of worship. Students of philosophy, theology, worldview, and culture will welcome *Desiring the Kingdom*, as will those involved in ministry and other interested readers.

**A Study Guide for Katherine Philips's "Against Love"** Gale, Cengage Learning

**Accidental Love** Gary Soto 2006 After unexpectedly falling in love with a "nerdy" boy, fourteen-year-old Yolanda works to change her life by transferring to another school, altering some of her behavior, and losing weight. Reprint.

*Neighborhood Odes* Gary Soto 1992 Twenty-one poems about growing up in an Hispanic neighborhood, highlighting the delights in such everyday items as sprinklers, the park, the library, and pomegranates.

**Jesse** Gary Soto 2006 Attending college in the hope of escaping their difficult home lives, two Mexican-American brothers share ambitious dreams, until the outbreak of the Vietnam War forces them to choose between fighting or returning to their fields of labor. Reprint.

Gary Soto Dennis Abrams 2013-11 A biography of the Mexican American author, Gary Soto, who writes children's books.

**The Afterlife** Gary Soto 2005-03-01 A senior at East Fresno High School lives on as a ghost after his brutal murder in the restroom of a club where he had gone to dance.

**Gary Soto** Gary Soto 1995 A collection of poems describing the experiences of Mexican Americans in California

**Chato's Kitchen** Gary Soto 1997-09-22 To get the "ratoncitos," little mice, who have moved into the barrio to come to his house, Chato the cat prepares all kinds of good food: fajitas, frijoles, salsa, enchiladas, and more.