

The Plain In Flames

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Nutshell *Juan Rulfo Juan Rulfo Juan Rulfo Kenneth F. Higgins Ilan Stavans Leo (Africanus) Johannes Africanus Leo (Reisender, Geograph) Leo (Africanus) Leo (Africanus) Luis Senarens United States. Congress Thomas Morrison (LL.D.) David Léon Cahun Melville De Lancey Landon*

juan rulfo is one of the most important writers of twentieth century mexico though he wrote only two books the novel *pedro páramo* 1955 and the short story collection *el llano en llamas* 1953 first translated into english in 1967 as *the burning plain* these starkly realistic stories create a psychologically acute portrait of poverty and dignity in the countryside at a time when mexico was undergoing rapid industrialization following the upheavals of the revolution according to ilan stavans the stories depth seems almost inexhaustible with a few strokes rulfo creates a complex human landscape defined by desolation these stories are lessons in morality they are also astonishing examples of artistic distillation to introduce a new generation of readers to rulfo s unsurpassable literary talents this new translation repositions the collection as a classic of world literature working from the definitive spanish edition of *el llano en llamas* established by the fundación juan rulfo ilan stavans and co translator harold augenbram present fresh translations of the original fifteen stories as well as two more stories that have not appeared in english before the legacy of matilde arcángel and the day of the collapse the translators have artfully preserved the author s peasantisms in appreciation of the distinctive voices of his characters such careful elegiac rendering of the stories perfectly suits rulfo s mexico in which people on the edge of despair nonetheless retain a sense of self of integrity that will not be taken away

a major figure in the history of post revolutionary literature in mexico juan rulfo received international acclaim for his brilliant short novel *pedro páramo* 1955 and his collection of short stories *el llano en llamas* 1953 translated as a collection here in english for the first time in the transition of mexican fiction from direct statements of nationalism and social protest to a concentration on cosmopolitanism the works of rulfo hold a unique position these stories of a rural people caught in the play of natural forces are not simply an interior examination of the

phenomena of their world they are written for the larger purpose of showing the actions of humans in broad terms of reality

for a writer so reserved in what he saw into print juan rulfo has had a disproportional influence on writers of literature in spanish and beyond on a par with jorge luis borges and gabriel garcía a mÃ rquez his single story collection *el llano in flames* provides a pithy and moving expression of life in central and western mexico in the decades following the revolution these stories have the quality of an oral testimony to harsh years and are delivered in a spare and exquisite voice this new translation by stephen beechinor marks the first time this masterpiece of latin american literature has been made available to english language readers beyond north america since the book was first published in spanish in 1953

this interpretation and compendium of historical fire accounts in the northern great plains provides resource managers with background information to justify the study or use of fire in management and provides a reference of historic fire accounts for those without ready access to major library collections historical accounts of fire are critiqued to aid interpreting the compendium accounts an interpretation is included by the author

finalist for the 2018 foreword indies book of the year awards in the essay category from award winning internationally known scholar and translator ilan stavans comes on self translation a collection of essays and conversations on language in its multifaceted forms stavans discusses the way syntax is being restructured by texting and other technologies he examines how the alphabet itself is being forgotten by the young how finger snapping has taken on a new meaning how the use of ellipses has lapsed and how autocorrect is shaping the way we communicate in an incisive meditation he shows how translating one s own work reinvents oneself in another tongue the volume includes tête à têtes with pulitzer prize winner richard wilbur and short fiction master lydia davis as well as dialogues on silence multilingualism poetry and the durability of the classics stavans s explorations cover spanish english hebrew yiddish and the hybrid lexicon of spanglish he muses on the meaning of foreignness and on

living and dying in different languages among his primary concerns are the role and history of dictionaries and the extent to which the authority of language academies is less a reality than a delusion he concludes with renditions into spanglish of portions of hamlet don quixote and the little prince the wide range of themes and engaging yet informed style confirm stavans status in the words of the washington post as latin america s liveliest and boldest critic and most innovative cultural enthusiast this book is freely available in an open access edition thanks to knowledge unlatched an initiative that provides libraries and institutions with a centralized platform to support oa collections and from leading publishing houses and oa initiatives learn more at the knowledge unlatched website at knowledgeunlatched.org and access the book online at the suny open access repository at hdl.handle.net/20.500.12648/7137

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