Further Reading List Book in Common

We’ve provided a list of relevant material for those who are reading and teaching *All They Will Call You* and would like to pursue the topics further. These resources range from popular to theoretical works, take up both historical accounts and contemporary narratives. A selection of pertinent films are also included at the end of the list.

Anzaldúa, Gloria. *Borderlands/La Frontera*.

> Now a classic, Anzaldúa uses a mix of history, cultural criticism, autobiography, and poetry to examine the complexity of the border, especially for women and LGBTQ individuals. Her work engages all kinds of borders—geopolitical ones, linguistic ones, gender and sexual ones, too.

Boyle, T.C. *The Tortilla Curtain*.

> A novel that juxtaposes life in a white suburb of Los Angeles and the lives of undocumented immigrants when an accident brings members of both communities together.

Cantú, Francisco. *The Line Becomes a River: Dispatches from the Border*.

> Cantú writes of his childhood growing up as a the son of a park ranger near the border and then of events he experienced as a Border Patrol agent.

Conover, Ted. *Coyotes*.

> Now a classic, Conover’s book recounts his experiences journeying across the U.S.-Mexico Border with coyotes, those paid to bring across undocumented individuals.

Daniels, Roger. *Guarding the Golden Door: American Immigration Policy and Immigrants since 1882*.


> A historical and theoretical account of the femicide, a term used to describe the disappearance and murders of hundreds of girls and women in and around Ciudad Juárez during the 1990s and 2000s, by one of Mexico’s experts on the phenomenon.


> Based on interviews and archival research in both the U.S. and Mexico, this book examines the development of the U.S. Border Patrol from a small organization into the large professional police force that exists today.


An edited volume that highlights contributions by forensic science in identifying and repatriating the remains of deceased migrants along the border. Includes an article by Chico State professor Eric Bartelink (Dept. of Anthropology).


Luiselli’s moving essay rests on a forty-question in-take form for undocumented children, especially those who attempted to migrate from Central America in the mass migration crisis of 2014-2015.

Martínez, Rubén. *Crossing Over: A Mexican Family on the Migrant Trail*.

This work of creative nonfiction by journalist and poet Rubén Martínez lends a human face through the experience of migration. *Crossing Over* tracks the journey of the Chávez clan, extended Mexican family who lost three sons in a tragic border accident, from the small southern Mexican town of Cherán to California, Wisconsin, and Missouri.

Montoya, Maceo. *The Deportation of Wopper Barraza*.

A novel written by a UC Davis professor, this story examines the immigrant story in reverse: what happens on the other end of deportation, when the main character is sent back to a village in Mexico that he has never known as ‘home.’

Nazario, Sonia. *Enrique’s Journey*.

Based on two Pulitzer-Prize winning pieces from the *Los Angeles Times*, this book recounts the story of Enrique, who travels from Honduras to the United States eleven years after his mother makes the trip; he does so to find his mother in a foreign and hostile land.

Oliver, Kelly. *Carceral Humanitarianism: Logics of Refugee Detention*.

A theory-driven polemic on how contemporary refugee-relief work, ostensibly rooted in humanitarianism, often works hand-in-glove with global carceral efforts that preserve and extend state power.


Ramos interviews survivors and recounts the events leading up to the discovery of an abandoned truck in Texas containing 74 undocumented people, 19 of whom died because of the sweltering conditions.


A complex, multi-genre book that looks at the past, present, and future of the U.S.-Mexico Border in part by comparing it to other contentious border and border-crossing, such the Israel-Palestine border or the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea.

A history that attempts to account for the historical, economic, and political developments of the Western side of the U.S.-Mexico border from 1848 to the early decades of the 20th century.

Urrea, Luis Alberto. *Across the Wire: Life and Hard Times on the Mexican Border*.

Based on his experiences as a translator working with relief agents in Tijuana, Urrea depicts life among refugees living twenty miles away from the U.S. border.


This harrowing and award-winning nonfiction account retraces the steps of a group of men who attempted to cross from Mexico into southern Arizona along what many have called ‘the Devil’s Highway’ in 2001.

Vargas, Jose Antonio. *Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen*.

Vargas, a Filipino immigrant who emigrated as an undocumented person when he was twelve, has emerged as one of the most important and vibrant voices on the human rights issues regarding undocumented immigrants. This is his memoir, detailing his life and his activism.

Films

¡ Alambrista!  
Anchor Baby  
Babel  
Backyard (El traspatio)  
A Better Life  
Beyond Borders  
Bread and Roses  
Desierto  
Don’t Tell Anyone/No Le Digas a Nadie  
El Norte  
Elysium  
Food Chains  
Forbidden: Undocumented and Queer in Rural America  
Frozen River  
The Hands that Feed  
The Harvest/La cosecha  
Immigration Battle  
New American Girls  
The Other Side of Immigration  
Roadtrip Nation: Beyond the Dream  
Salvador  
Sin Nombre  
Sin País  
Sleep Dealer  
The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada
Una Vida, Dos Países
Under the Same Moon/La misma luna
Underwater Dreams
The Visitor
Wetback: The Undocumented Documentary
Which Way Home
Who is Dayani Cristal?