

Contents

Acknowledgments xi

A Note on Style xiii

Introduction 1

I *The Search for "Lo Mexicano"*

Introduction 9

The Mexican Character, *Joel Poinsett* 11

The Cosmic Race, *José Vasconcelos* 15

The Sons of La Malinche, *Octavio Paz* 20

The Problem of National Culture, *Guillermo Bonfil Batalla* 28

Does It Mean Anything to Be Mexican?, *Roger Bartra* 33

Mexico City 1992, *Alma Guillermoprieto* 41

Two Ranchera Songs, *José Alfredo Jiménez and Cuco Sánchez* 53

II *Ancient Civilizations*

Introduction 55

The Origins of the Aztecs, *Anonymous* 57

The Cost of Courage in Aztec Society, *Inga Clendinnen* 61

Popol Vuh, *Anonymous* 79

The Meaning of Maize for the Maya, *J. Eric Thompson* 86

Omens Foretelling the Conquest, *Anonymous* 92

III *Conquest and Colony*

Introduction 95

The Spaniards' Entry into Tenochtitlán, *Bernal Díaz del Castillo and
Hernán Cortés* 97

Cortés and Montezuma, *J. H. Elliott* 105

The Battles of Tenochtitlán and Tlatelolco, *Anonymous* 109

The Spiritual Conquest, *Fray Jerónimo de Mendieta* 114

- Why the Indians Are Dying, *Alonso de Zorita* 122
The Colonial Latifundio, *Enrique Florescano* 131
A Baroque Archbishop-Viceroy, *Irving Leonard* 141
On Men's Hypocrisy, *Sor Juana* 156
The Itching Parrot, the Priest, and the Subdelegate,
José Joaquín Fernández de Lizardi 160

IV *Trials of the Young Republic*

- Introduction 169
The Siege of Guanajuato, *Lucas Alamán* 171
Sentiments of the Nation, *José María Morelos* 189
Plan of Iguala, *Agustín de Iturbide* 192
Women and War in Mexico, *Frances Calderón de la Barca* 196
The Glorious Revolution of 1844, *Guillermo Prieto* 206
Décimas Dedicated to Santa Anna's Leg, *Anonymous* 213
War and Finance, Mexican Style, *Juan Bautista Morales* 217
A Conservative Profession of Faith, *The Editors of El Tiempo* 220
Considerations Relating to the Political and Social Situation,
Mariano Otero 226
Liberals and the Land, *Luis González y González* 239
Standard Plots and Rural Resistance, *Raymond B. Craib* 252
Offer of the Crown to Maximilian, *Junta of Conservative Notables* 263
A Letter from Mexico, *Empress Carlotta* 265
The Triumph of the Republic, *Benito Juárez* 270
Pofirio Díaz Visits Yucatán, *Channing Arnold and*
Frederick J. Tabor Frost 273
Scenes from a Lumber Camp, *B. Traven* 279
President Díaz, Hero of the Americas, *James Creelman* 285
Gift of the Skeletons, *Anonymous* 292

Special Section

- Mexican History in Photographs, *John Mraz* 297

V *Revolution*

- Introduction 333
Land and Liberty, *Ricardo Flores Magón* 335
Plan of Ayala, *Emiliano Zapata and Others* 339

- The Restoration of the *Ejido*, *Luis Cabrera* 344
 Zapatistas in the Palace, *Martín Luis Guzmán* 351
 Mexico Has Been Turned into a Hell, *William O. Jenkins* 357
 Pancho Villa, *John Reed* 364
La Punitiva, *Anonymous* 372
 Pedro Martínez, *Oscar Lewis* 375
 Juan the Chamula, *Ricardo Pozas* 387
 The Constitution of 1917: Articles 27 and 123 398
 An Agrarian Encounter, *Rosalie Evans* 403
 Ode to Cuauhtémoc, *Carlos Pellicer* 406
 The Socialist ABC's, *Anonymous* 411
 The Ballad of Valentín of the Sierra, *Anonymous* 418
 Mexico Must Become a Nation of Institutions and Laws,
Plutarco Elías Calles 421
 The Formation of the Single-Party State, *Carlos Fuentes* 426
 The Rough and Tumble Career of Pedro Crespo,
Gilbert M. Joseph and Allen Wells 428
 A Convention in Zacapu, *Salvador Lemus Fernández* 439
 The Agrarian Reform in La Laguna, *Fernando Benítez* 445
 The Oil Expropriation, *Josephus Daniels* 452
 Cárdenas and the Masses, *Arturo Anguiano* 456

VI *The Perils of Modernity*

- Introduction 461
 They Gave Us the Land, *Juan Rulfo* 465
 Mexico's Crisis, *Daniel Cosío Villegas* 470
 Struggles of a Campesino Leader, *Rubén Jaramillo* 482
 Art and Corruption, *David Alfaro Siqueiros* 492
 The Two Faces of Acapulco during the Golden Age, *Andrew Sackett* 500
 Mexico, *Sid Tepper and Roy C. Bennett* 511
 The Dark Deeds of "El Negro" Durazo, *José González G.* 512
 The Sinking City, *Joel Simon* 520
 Ciudad Nezahualcóyotl, *Roberto Vallarino* 536
 Modesta Gómez, *Rosario Castellanos* 545

VII *From the Ruins*

- Introduction 553
 The Student Movement of 1968, *Elena Poniatowska* 555

- El Santo's Strange Career, *Anne Rubenstein* 570
After the Earthquake, *Victims' Coordinating Council* 579
Letters to Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, *Anonymous* 591
Corazón del Rocanrol, *Rubén Martínez* 598
I Don't Believe Them at All,
Maldita Vecindad y los Hijos del Quinto Patio 612
Identity Hour, *Carlos Monsiváis* 613
The COCEI of Juchitán, Oaxaca: Two Documents, *Leopoldo de Gyves de la Cruz and COCEI* 619
Women of Juchitán, *Jeffrey W. Rubin* 625
EZLN Demands at the Dialogue Table, *Zapatista Army of National Liberation* 638
The Long Journey from Despair to Hope, *Subcomandante Marcos* 646
A Tzotzil Chronicle, *Marián Peres Tsu* 655
Debtors' Revenge, *Heather Williams* 670
Mexicans Would Not Be Bought, Coerced, *Wayne A. Cornelius* 684

VIII *The Border and Beyond*

- Introduction 687
Plan of San Diego, *Anonymous* 689
The Mexican Connection, *Rudolfo Acuña* 692
The *Maquiladoras*, *William Langewiesche* 698
Dompe Days, *Luis Alberto Urrea* 708
Pedro P., Coyote, *Judith Adler Hellman* 717
There's a Party Going On in Texas, *Anonymous* 728
Two Poems about Immigrant Life, *Pat Mora and Gina Valdés* 731
The Deadly Harvest of the Sierra Madre, *Alan Weisman* 734
Two Songs about Drug Smuggling, *Salomé Gutiérrez and Paulino Vargas* 747
The New World Border, *Guillermo Gómez-Peña* 750
Suggestions for Further Reading 757
Acknowledgment of Copyrights 763
Index 773