



The Other Island: A Memoir

Jaime Martínez Tolentino

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

The Other Island: A Memoir

Jaime Martínez Tolentino

The Other Island: A Memoir Jaime Martínez Tolentino

Little Jaime lived in a small village on the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico. Then, when he was four years old, he contracted polio and almost died from the illness. When he left the hospital, he was crippled, and he would have withered lower limbs and walk with a limp for the rest of his life. The same year that he left the hospital, his father emigrated to New York City in search of better working conditions. Four years later, in 1951, his father sent for Jaime's mother, Jaime and his two younger siblings. *THE OTHER ISLAND* begins with his arrival in NYC, and his adaptation to "the Big Apple." New York City was world's apart from everything that little Jaime had ever known. The scenery was all different, and so was the weather. Moreover, people spoke English, and not Spanish, little Jaime's native language. Nonetheless, Jaime adapted, and soon spoke English perfectly. What he could not adapt to was his family's worsening economic condition in "the Big Apple" which took them from one neighborhood to another, each worse than the previous one. Nonetheless, through a lucky break, Jaime was chosen for a special program for "gifted and talented students." And so, for three years, he attended Joan of Arc JHS where he studied with some of the city's best teachers and students, getting a taste for comparative literature, theater and classical music. However, his experiences at that school and the lives lived by his wealthy classmates were constantly in conflict with the life of poverty that he and his own parents lived. One of his darkest moments comes when his family moves into the Puerto Rican ghetto of "El Barrio" on the upper East side of the city. Crime, poverty, gangs, filth... it was all almost too much to bear. To top everything off, Jaime's budding preparation as a future concert cellist was cut short when he failed to gain admission into the prestigious High School of Music and Art. As the end of his high school years approached, Jaime thought of going to college, something that no one in his family had ever done, and very few inhabitants of "El Barrio" ever attempted. Through fear of rejection, Jaime let several excellent opportunities pass him by, but when things seemed at their worst, he was accepted into one of the city's most prestigious, and most expensive, universities. College was a constant effort to come up with the money to pay for his tuition, and the effort took its toll on his grades. At one point, he was on the verge of being suspended from school. But then, another stroke of luck changed everything. When he finally accepted that his future lay in languages and writing, everything fell into place, and Jaime became an excellent student. So much so, that he was given a full fellowship to graduate school. College in the stormy 1960s was also a chance for Jaime to know romance... several times over. It was also a time of incredible social change, and Jaime embraced it totally. Yet, when he had triumphed over his social environment, Jaime tackled one more obstacle... the search for his Puerto Rican roots. *THE OTHER ISLAND* is an American success story, which at the same time, chronicles the existence of one of the U.S.'s most important (and least recognized) minorities. It is also a coming-of-age tale, with the stormy 1960's as its backdrop. Forget *West Side Story*, Piri Thomas' *Down These Mean Streets*, and Esmeralda Santiago's *When I Was Puerto Rican*. This is a real-life story narrated by a professional writer.

 [Download The Other Island: A Memoir ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Other Island: A Memoir ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Other Island: A Memoir Jaime Martínez Tolentino

From reader reviews:

Verline Custer:

Inside other case, little folks like to read book The Other Island: A Memoir. You can choose the best book if you love reading a book. Providing we know about how is important any book The Other Island: A Memoir. You can add know-how and of course you can around the world with a book. Absolutely right, since from book you can understand everything! From your country until finally foreign or abroad you may be known. About simple point until wonderful thing you may know that. In this era, we can easily open a book or perhaps searching by internet product. It is called e-book. You can utilize it when you feel bored to go to the library. Let's learn.

Scott Barbour:

This The Other Island: A Memoir are generally reliable for you who want to be a successful person, why. The key reason why of this The Other Island: A Memoir can be one of many great books you must have is definitely giving you more than just simple looking at food but feed anyone with information that probably will shock your previous knowledge. This book is usually handy, you can bring it almost everywhere and whenever your conditions throughout the e-book and printed versions. Beside that this The Other Island: A Memoir forcing you to have an enormous of experience such as rich vocabulary, giving you demo of critical thinking that we understand it useful in your day task. So , let's have it and enjoy reading.

Lauren Joseph:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with good friends is thing that usually you have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try point that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love The Other Island: A Memoir, you can enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh occur its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Gayle Anderson:

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The publication lovers usually prefer to pick book like comic, quick story and the biggest some may be novel. Now, why not trying The Other Island: A Memoir that give your enjoyment preference will be satisfied by reading this book. Reading practice all over the world can be said as the method for people to know world better then how they react towards the world. It can't be said constantly that reading practice only for the geeky man or woman but for all of you who wants to end up being success person. So , for all of you who want to start reading through as your good habit, you could pick The Other Island: A Memoir become your current starter.

**Download and Read Online The Other Island: A Memoir Jaime
Martínez Tolentino #O9MW6U3AY0G**

Read The Other Island: A Memoir by Jaime Martínez Tolentino for online ebook

The Other Island: A Memoir by Jaime Martínez Tolentino Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Other Island: A Memoir by Jaime Martínez Tolentino books to read online.

Online The Other Island: A Memoir by Jaime Martínez Tolentino ebook PDF download

The Other Island: A Memoir by Jaime Martínez Tolentino Doc

The Other Island: A Memoir by Jaime Martínez Tolentino Mobipocket

The Other Island: A Memoir by Jaime Martínez Tolentino EPub