



Diana Rodriguez Wallach
Author, Young Adult Fiction
Amor and Summer Secrets
Kensington Publishing
September 2008
www.dianarodriguezwallach.com

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

New Young Adult Series To Be Set in Philadelphia

Diana Rodriguez Wallach's debut series features a 15-year-old multicultural character from the affluent Main Line

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PHILADELPHIA (March 17, 2008) – Philadelphia's Main Line could become the next "O.C." when Author Diana Rodriguez Wallach's debut young adult series launches in September. The first book, entitled *Amor and Summer Secrets* (Kensington Publishing, September 2008), is set in the affluent Philadelphia suburbs and features a wealthy multicultural family. Rodriguez Wallach has just launched her new website and blog, and pre-orders for the book can now be made on Amazon.com.

Born to a Puerto Rican father and a Polish mother, Rodriguez Wallach has leant her background to her characters. She grew up in the suburbs of Ridley Township outside of Philadelphia. Her father, born in Utuado, Puerto Rico, moved to Chester, PA as a child. It was here he met her mother, who was raised in Chester's Polish community. Though Rodriguez Wallach grew up not speaking Spanish or Polish, she was the only kid who's dinner table featured both perogies and plantains. Feeding off her multicultural background, she created her three-book series.

Amor and Summer Secrets, the first in the series, features Mariana Ruíz, a half Polish/half Puerto Rican teenager who is just coming into a realization of her Latina roots.

The red haired, ivory-skinned 15-year-old has no desire to step foot outside her of affluent community. But she doesn't have a choice.

With total disregard to the high-glam Sweet 16 her best friend is hosting, Mariana's father ships her off to a tiny mountain town in Puerto Rico to stay with family she's never met. The heat is merciless, the food is spicy, and only one of her relatives—her distant cousin Lilly—speaks English. Her consolation prize is Lilly's homespun Puerto Rican Quinceañera. Only the riotously festive party exposes Mariana to more than just her culture. She uncovers new friends, her first love, and a family secret that's been buried on the island for more than 30 years.

The series, targeting girls 12 years and older, is highlighted on Diana Rodriguez Wallach's new website, www.dianarodriguezwallach.com. The website also features the "real story" on how the book came about and includes Rodriguez Wallach's new blog, which offers the unedited truth about what it's like to be a soon-to-be-published writer.

Preorders for the book can be made on Amazon through the following link: <http://www.amazon.com/Summer-Secrets-Diana-Rodriguez-Wallach/dp/0758225539?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1204350679&sr=1-1>.

Diana Rodriguez Wallach's debut novel, *Amor & Summer Secrets*, is the first in a three-book series to be published by Kensington Publishing in September 2008. Diana holds a journalism degree from Boston University, and has worked as a reporter and as an advocate for inner city public schools. She currently resides in Philadelphia with her husband. For more information, visit www.dianarodriguezwallach.com.

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