



Dining for Women

October 2011 Recommendations: Fair Trade Shopping, Books & Films Featured Program: Mercado Global, Guatemala

This Month's Recommendations:

- ♀ Fair Trade Shopping
- ♀ Books
- ♀ Videos & Films

Fair Trade Shopping



From this month's featured program, [Mercado Global](#): Every purchase directly supports the talented artisans behind its creation.

[Beads of Strength Necklace](#). Sixteen threads of hand-strung Czech glass beads and Swarovski crystals. Made by the women of San Jorge.

[Zigzag Brocade Pillow](#). "For the artisans of Atitlán it has been a great help to be able to work with Mercado Global – the orders we have worked on have helped us support our families." - Candelaria Tacaxoy



Our thanks to Carolyn Mayers for the following Fair Trade Shopping Recommendations:



How about a hand-woven apron? Scroll dow - 3rd from the bottom:
http://www.garudainternational.com/fair_trade_kitchen_textiles.htm



Maybe a new cell-phone bag! Available in two sizes/styles:
<http://www.oneworldprojects.com/products/phones.shtml>



Of course, Guatemala has some of the best coffee in the world. Why not serve some at your dinner?
<http://www.groundsforchange.com/shop/product.php?pid=1>

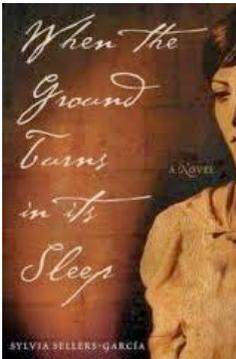


Finally, a salad bowl and servers! Read the producer story then scroll down!
<http://www.oneworldprojects.com/products/wood-guatemala.shtml>



Recommended Books

Fiction

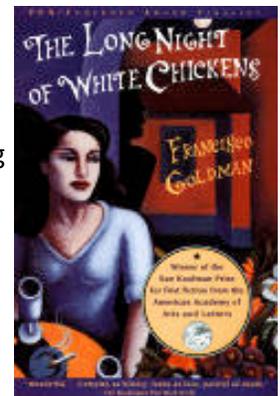


[When the Ground Turns in Its Sleep](#) by Sylvia Sellers-Garcia

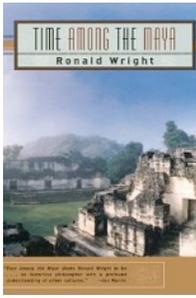
This impressive debut is narrated by Nítido Amán, a high-school teacher born in Guatemala but brought up in America. Reading about the atrocities of the nineteen-eighties warfare in his homeland, Amán returns there, in order, he says, "to fill the silences" left by his parents and by "the wide margins of the newspaper." Arriving in 1993 in an isolated village near his parents' birthplace, he is mistaken for the town's new priest, and finds himself furthering the illusion. Sellers-García is concerned with the jigsaw nature of violent history. The villagers confess mysterious illnesses; Amán gives refuge to an injured priest from a neighboring town that no one will talk about; and the stage is set for the dramatic unravelling of near and distant savageries.--The New Yorker

[The Long Night of White Chickens](#) by Francisco Goldman

At the height of Guatemala's military tyranny during the 1980s, Guatemalan aristocrat Roger Graetz leaves his comfortable home in Boston for his homeland to investigate the death of Flor, the beautiful orphan with whom he was raised. The Long Night of White Chickens is a novel truly born of two worlds: It is the story of Roger Graetz, raised in a Boston suburb by an aristocratic Guatemalan mother, and his relationship with Flor de Mayo, the beautiful young Guatemalan orphan sent by his grandmother to live with his family as a maid. --Powell's Bookstore



Nonfiction

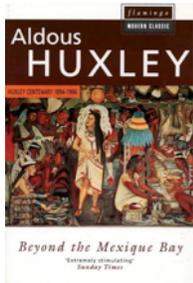
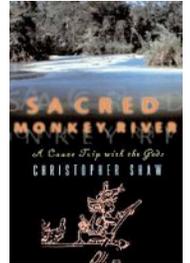


Time Among the Maya by Ronald Wright

Ronald Wright's *Time Among the Maya* is a story of travels through the whole Maya region – Guatemala, Mexico, Belize and Honduras – delving into the glorious past and exploited present of the Maya and their obsession with time.--Lonely Planet

Sacred Monkey River: A Canoe Trip with the Gods by Christopher Shaw

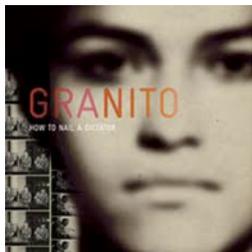
In *Sacred Monkey River*, Christopher Shaw explores by canoe the jungle clad basin of the Río Usumacinta, a cradle of ancient Maya civilization along the Mexico–Guatemala border.--Lonely Planet



Beyond the Mexique Bay by Aldous Huxley

Probably the most quoted travelogue on Guatemala is Aldous Huxley's *Beyond the Mexique Bay*. Written in the 1930s, many of Huxley's descriptions hold true today, particularly of Maya sites and natural wonders, such as Lago de Atitlán.--Lonely Planet

Films & Videos



Granito

American filmgoers may not know what a “granito” is, but Pamela Yates’s new documentary of that name comes with a subtitle whose meaning could not be clearer: “How to Nail a Dictator.” The tyrant in question is Gen. Efraín Ríos Montt, who for 17 bloody months in the early 1980s led a military junta in Guatemala, and the “granitos” are the many human-rights advocates, metaphorical grains of sand who, by working together, have now managed to bring him up on genocide charges in a Spanish court. --The New York Times

***When the Mountains Tremble*: The story of Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchú** “Granito” is thus both a companion to and a comment on Ms. Yates’s first feature-length film, “When the Mountains Tremble.” Shot nearly 30 years ago, at the height of General Ríos Montt’s rule, that documentary offers an unrivaled glimpse of Guatemala’s turmoil from the vantage point of both the military leaders and the Marxist-Leninist guerrillas trying to unseat them. --The New York Times



El Norte

Two indigenous youths who flee Guatemala in the early 1980s due to ethnic and political persecution. They head north and travel through Mexico to the United States, arriving in Los Angeles, California, after an arduous journey. *El Norte* received an Oscar nomination for Best Original Screenplay in 1985.

— Changing the world one dinner at a time