



Cambridge Public Library to Host Award-Winning Author Xochitl Gonzalez

CAMBRIDGE, MA, September 28- The Main Library will welcome Xochitl Gonzalez for a reading and signing of her *New York Times* bestseller, *Olga Dies Dreaming*, on Tuesday, October 17, from 6-7:30 p.m. Gonzalez will be in conversation with local poet and artist Jess Rizkallah, author of *the magic my body becomes*. Attendees can join in-person or online. [Registration is required.](#)

Olga Dies Dreaming follows Olga, a high-profile wedding planner for Manhattan's power brokers, and her brother, Prieto, a popular congressman representing their gentrifying Latinx neighborhood in Brooklyn, as they juggle their public and personal lives. The arrival of a new love interest, Matteo, and their estranged mother and Young Lord turned radical, Blanca, forces Olga to confront the effects of long-held family secrets. Xochitl Gonzalez's *Olga Dies Dreaming* is a story that examines political corruption, familial strife, and the very notion of the American dream.

A *New York Times* Book Review says, "Liberation is at the heart of *Olga Dies Dreaming*. The story's driving tension derives from questions of how to break free...The book's title is an allusion to the poem "Puerto Rican Obituary," by Pedro Pietri, which contains the lines "Olga / dies dreaming of a five dollar raise." But Gonzalez's Olga will not go meekly to such a fate. Sometimes we must free ourselves — even from dreams."

Named a Best of 2022 by *The New York Times*, *TIME*, *Kirkus*, *Washington Post*, and *NPR*, *Olga Dies Dreaming* was the winner of the Brooklyn Public Library Book Prize in Fiction and The New York City Book Awards. Gonzalez's new novel, *Anita de Monte Laughs Last*, is forthcoming in March 2024 with Flatiron Books. She is a 2021 M.F.A. graduate from the Iowa Writers' Workshop. As a staff writer for *The Atlantic*, she was recognized as a 2023 finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Commentary. A native Brooklynite and proud public school graduate, Gonzalez holds a BA from Brown University and lives in her hometown of Brooklyn with her dog, Hectah Lavoe.

About the Cambridge Public Library:

At the Cambridge Public Library, we welcome all, inspire minds and empower community. We support a Cambridge where everyone has equitable opportunities to learn, people live their best lives and democracy thrives. [Visit our website](#) to learn more.

The City of Cambridge does not discriminate, including on the basis of disability. We may provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to people with disabilities. For more information contact us at library@cambridgema.gov, 617-349-4032 (voice), or via relay at 711.