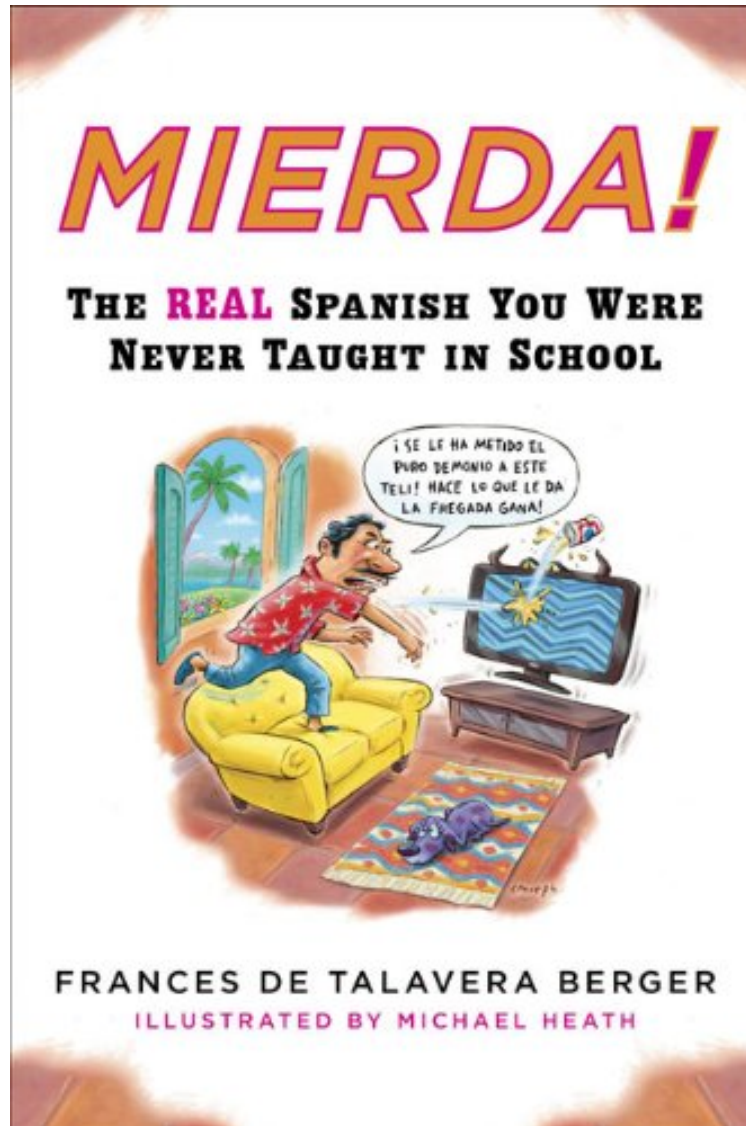


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Mierda!: The Real Spanish You Were Never Taught in School (Plume)

Frances de Talavera Berger
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#514886 in Books 1990-06-27 1990-06-27 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.10 x .32 x 5.451, .20 #File Name: 045226424396 pages | File size: 65.Mb

Frances de Talavera Berger : Mierda!: The Real Spanish You Were Never Taught in School (Plume) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mierda!: The Real Spanish You Were Never Taught in School (Plume):

22 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Mierda comes in handy sometimes...By Patricia...especially for gardening! Actually, I bought this book in college, and it's great! I am a teacher with lots of hispanic students, and it

enabled me to understand what vile things they were calling me. I could then politely tell them (in Spanish) how their mothers would enjoy hearing our discussion. It was very effective. My high school age daughter thought it was the most fantastically funny book she had ever read, and is now majoring in Spanish in college. And no, mierda is NOT our favorite word. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting and Amusing Research for Fiction By Anne Wingate I'm going through all my old orders to review anything I have previously failed to review. I am writing several novels set in South Texas, and I need to be sure the slang is accurate. I bought this book after my middle daughter took me on a tour of San Antonio. I'm finding it very useful and interesting. 10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. 4 Stars Not for Content but for Entertainment By Vinny BI am not going to try to convince you that this book will teach you a lot of useful Spanish slang. As one reviewer pointed out a lot of the Spanish "cusswords" are so regional that much of the material may be useless. But if you study Spanish as much as I do there comes a time when you need a break from your studies and you simply want to be entertained. For learning Spanish entertainment I think the book is great. If you find this kind of stuff amusing I also recommend a set of tapes called Spanish for Adults Only : A Complete Course in Sexual Slang.

A collection of hard-core curses, colorful colloquialisms, and streetwise slang never taught in Spanish class includes sample conversations, painless quizzes, tips on body gestures, and discussions of Spanish history, culture, and cuisine complete with delightful cartoons.

Language Notes Text: English, Spanish About the Author Frances de Talavera Berger has lived in Mexico, Spain, and Los Angeles, California where she has never been at a loss for words. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Its true. The real Spanish no teacher dared to bring into the classroom is now at your fingertips: AY, MIERDA! COJI EL TREN INCORRECTO. (Oh, shit, I took the wrong train.) ESTOY EN MARAVILLA QUE TODAVIA VIVO. AY, DIOS, QUE NOCHE BRUTA! (Im amazed Im still alive. Oh, God, what a bitchin night!) NO ME FRIEGAS! (Dont jerk me around!) SOSPECHO QUE TIENEN LOS DOS TODO EL TALENTO EN LA GLORIA. (I think they both have all their brains in their genitals.) CHINGATE! (Go have sexual intercourse with yourself!) And dozens more words, phrases, and mini-conversations for everything you always needed to say in Spanish but nobody ever told you how! MIERDA! Frances de Talavera Berger has lived in Mexico, Spain, and Los Angeles, California where she has never been at a loss for words. MIERDA! The Real Spanish You Were Never Taught in School by Frances de Talevera Berger Illustrated by Michael Heath PREFACE Castilian! The very sight of the word still gives you fits, doesnt it? Remember the mind-boggling struggles with that too inflexible, autocratic dialect which, for obvious reasons, will always be the basis for teaching Spanish? Sure, youve studied very hard and the pitfalls of those lispy cetas and mystifying tildes have been hurdled. You feel you have a reasonable, functional command of Spanish. But do you? Think back a little. Remember that Argentinian art film you could barely understand? Or how about the latest East L.A. salsa flick, supposedly in English but very heavy on Latino slang? Might as well be listening to Martian, right? Worse still, relive that mortifying moment on your first trip to Mexico when, awestruck by the grandeur of the worlds largest pyramid, you gave vent to ecstasy in your best scholarly Spanish while two natives nearby stared first at you, then at each other, and then politely but so disdainfully rolled their eyes toward heaven! Well, stop fretting. Basically, the problem is that your Spanish is probably too prim, too proper, too formal for just plain necessary communication. You werent taught the colorful dirty words and fanciful phrases that are the heart and soul of this multiregional, dynamic language. Why, normal Hispanic usage practically demands heavy doses of superb vulgarismo (slang) and a heady repertoire of hard-core curses! Here, then, is an introductory guide to basic profanities without, however, any pretense toward the dogmatic or definitive. So hang in there and youll learn how everyday Spanish is really spoken, all the way from Pamplona to Tierra del Fuego. Helpful Hints Asterisks after words indicate a degree of dirtiness beyond the ordinary colloquial. A one-asterisk word may be used casually, but with moderation. As for the two-asterisk word, dont let it fill you with stark horror. Try it out, here and there. Play with it, cleverly. Go on, be brave. Youll soon find that the trick is to use it at just the right time and for just the right circumstance. When not directly translatable, English definitions are given as close an equivalent as possible. But dont worry, the intent and flavor remain unspoiled. An abbreviation will appear if a word or phrase is used mainly in the vernacular of a particular region or country: Spain = SPN; Mexico = MX; Puerto Rico = PR; East Los Angeles = ELA; Panama = PAN; Colombia = COL; Argentina = ARG; West Indies = W IND; Central America = C AMR; Cuba = CU. Also, since a majority of Hispanics concentrated in the American Northeast and Southwest are inventing a robust, ribald dialect of their own, Spanglish will be indicated as SPNGL when apropos. The Basics Both Proper and Profane Even the most common words have much juicier colloquial counterparts. Hispanics take great pride in applying as many words as possible to any and all objects vegetable, mineral, and human. And if the language should fail to describe or impart ones exact meaning, there is no hesitation whatsoever to invent words, borrowing freely snips and pieces from other dialects and even from other languages. This isnt considered a bad habit. (Let the purists be damned!) On the contrary, its applauded as imaginative and artistic. To a Latino, born with the compulsion of a poet, the most important thing in the world is to get his or her meaning across. We begin with the proper the lofty Castilian of

the hidalgos but then adjust quickly, of course, to the necessary and inventive profanities of the modern Hispanic tongue. una mujer una guapa (handsome nice) una mamita* (in this case, not nice)