

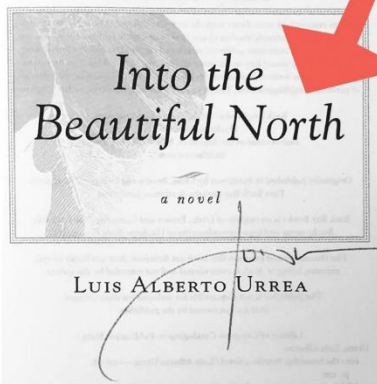


# Big Read Roswell 2021 Keynote Event

## Saturday, March 13, 6 p.m.

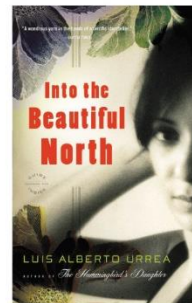
[CLICK HERE](#) to register for the KEYNOTE Presentation on ZOOM

Register for the talk and receive a signed copy of *Into the Beautiful North*!



## Luis Alberto Urrea

will talk about his book  
*Into the Beautiful North*  
as well as answer  
questions from the  
Roswell community!



Hailed by NPR as a “literary badass” and a “master storyteller with a rock and roll heart,” Luis Alberto Urrea is a prolific and acclaimed writer who uses his dual-culture life experiences to explore greater themes of love, loss and triumph.

A 2005 Pulitzer Prize finalist for nonfiction and member of the Latino Literature Hall of Fame, Urrea is the critically acclaimed and best-selling author of 17 books, winning numerous awards for his poetry, fiction and essays. Born in Tijuana to a Mexican father and American mother, Urrea is most recognized as a border writer, though he says, “I am more interested in bridges, not borders.”

In all, more than 100 cities and colleges have chosen *Into the Beautiful North*, *The Devil's Highway* or *The Hummingbird's Daughter* (or another Urrea book) for a community read.

*Into the Beautiful North* earned a citation of excellent from the American Library Association Rainbow's Project. Urrea's first book, *Across the Wire*, was named a New York Times Notable Book and won the Christopher Award. Urrea also won a 1999

American Book Award for his memoir, *Nobody's Son: Notes from an American Life* and in 2000, he was voted into the Latino Literature Hall of Fame following the publication of *Vatos*. His book of short stories, *Six Kinds of Sky*, was named the 2002 small-press Book of the Year in fiction by the editors of *ForeWord* magazine.

Urrea attended the University of California at San Diego, earning an undergraduate degree in writing, and did his graduate studies at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

After serving as a relief worker in Tijuana and a film extra and columnist-editor-cartoonist for several publications, Urrea moved to Boston where he taught expository writing and fiction workshops at Harvard. He also taught at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette.

Urrea lives with his family in Naperville, IL, where he is a distinguished professor of creative writing at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

(excerpted/condensed from his website: <http://luisurrea.com/>)

e-mail your question(s) for Mr. Urrea to [jflom@risd.k12.nm.us](mailto:jflom@risd.k12.nm.us)

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