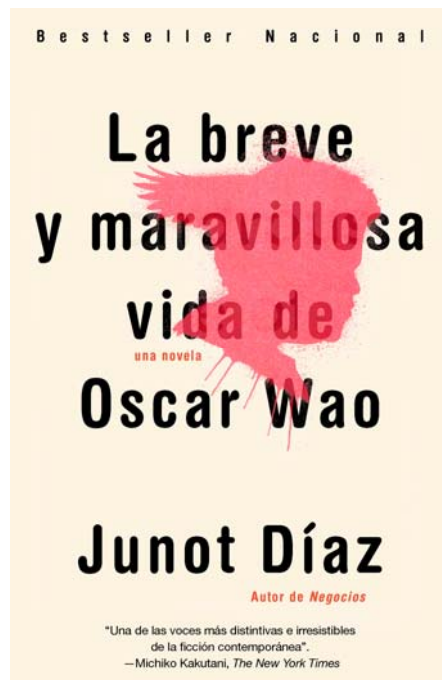


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

IN SEPTEMBER 2008, VINTAGE ESPAÑOL WILL PUBLISH, LA BREVE Y MARAVILLOSA VIDA DE OSCAR WAO – THE SPANISH-LANGUAGE EDITION OF JUNOT DIAZ’S FIRST NOVEL.

THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO, the acclaimed first novel from the author of DROWN, won the National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction last week.



La breve y maravillosa vida de Oscar Wao
Spanish-language paperback edition
\$14.00 • ISBN 978-0-679-77669-7

On September 2, 2008, Vintage Español will publish **LA BREVE Y MARAVILLOSA VIDA DE OSCAR WAO**, the Spanish-language edition of Junot Díaz’s **THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO**. The novel, which has already won many prestigious literary awards and was included on Best of lists around the country (*Time*, *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, etc), was awarded the National Book Critics Award last week.

Spanning three generations and two nations, **LA BREVE Y MARAVILLOSA VIDA DE OSCAR WAO** is a family saga that chronicles lonely, overweight Oscar de León’s ill-starred quest for love and his family’s struggle to escape the curse that has haunted them for generations, dooming them to prison, torture, and heartache. With its kinetic prose and indelible characters, this vibrant debut novel confirms Junot Díaz as one of the best and most exciting voices of our time.

His debut book, **DROWN**, which is also available from Vintage Español in a Spanish-language edition as **NEGOCIOS**, was met with an unprecedented acclaim; it became a national bestseller, earned him a PEN/Malamud Award, and has since grown into a landmark of contemporary literature.

Junot Díaz’s fiction has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, and *The Best American Short Stories*. Born in the Dominican Republic and raised in New Jersey, Díaz lives in New York City and is a professor of writing at MIT.

Honors for THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO:

Winner of the 2007 John Sargent, Sr. First Novel Prize
Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction

Best Novel of 2007 *New York Magazine*
A *New York Times* Notable Book
Amazon.com Editor's Choice #2 Best Book of the Year
A *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year
National Book Critic Circle Best Recommended List (#1 fiction book)
Time Magazine's Best Books (#1 fiction book)
Los Angeles Times One of 25 Favorite Books
The Washington Post Best Books
San Francisco Chronicle Best Books of 2007
The Village Voice Top 10 Books of 2007
Library Journal Best Books of 2007
People Magazine Top 10 Books of 2007
Boston Globe, Best Books of 2007
Christian Science Monitor, The 2007 books we liked best: fiction
Booklist Top 10
TimeOut New York Top 10
Salon.com's 10 most pleasurable reading experiences of the year
Latino Stories' Top 10 Best Latino Writers
Baltimore City Paper Top Ten Books of 2007 (#4)
Hudson News, 10 Best of 2007 (fiction)
E! Online's Picks for 2007
Caribbean Review of Books, Best Books of 2007
Latinidad.com's Best Books of 2007 (best literary fiction)
Miami Herald Best literary journeys of 2007
Tampa Tribune Best Books of 2007
Charleston City Paper: The Best Fiction of 2007 (#2 of 5)
LAist Recommends: Editors Pick Their Favorite Books of the Year
TimeOut Chicago Best Books of 2007
New York Daily News, Authors' Picks of 2007
The Providence Journal: The Books we Loved in '07
Selected by Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*, as one of the top books of 2007
nj.com's Best Jersey Books of 2007 (#1)
Pike Magazine, Best Novel of 2007
Chicago Sun-Times' Good Reads of 2007
ZDnet Recommended Fiction
Entertainment Weekly's Best Books of 2007
Rocky Mountain News's 50 Favorite Books of 2007
BN.com, one of 2007's top 10 fiction books
Dayton Daily News, Best Books of 2007
Michigan Daily, Best Books of 2007
New Brunswick Home News Tribune, Best-bet books of 2007
Washington City Paper, Best Books of 2007
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Best Books of 2007
St. Louis Post Dispatch, Best Books of 2007
Rocky Mountain News, Top 50 Books of 2007

Praise for *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*:

"So brief and wondrous, this life of Oscar. Wow." — *Washington Post Book World*

"Díaz's novel is a hell of a book.... His dazzling wordplay is impressive. But by the end, it is his tenderness and loyalty and melancholy that breaks the heart." — *Los Angeles Times*

"*Oscar Wao* shows a novelist engaged with the culture, high and low, and its polyglot language." — *Newsweek*

"Junot Díaz's *Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* is a wondrous, not-so-brief first novel that is so original it can only be described as Mario Vargas Llosa meets

“Star Trek” meets David Foster Wallace meets Kanye West. It is funny, street-smart and keenly observed” —*New York Times*

“Genius...a story of the American experience that is giddily glorious and hauntingly horrific... His narration is a triumph of style and wit... That Díaz’s novel is also full of ideas, that Yunior’s brilliant talking rivals the monologues of Roth’s Zuckerman—in short, that what he has produced is a kick-ass (and truly, that is the just word for it) work of modern fiction—all make *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* something exceedingly rare: a book in which a new America can recognize itself, but so can everyone else.” —*San Francisco Chronicle*

“Díaz’s writing is unruly, manic, seductive...In Díaz’s landscape we are all the same, victims of a history and a present that don’t just bleed together but stew. Often in hilarity. Mostly in heartbreak.”—*Esquire*

“In the imagination of many writers it is the untold stories that propel—those vibrant, colorful, magical, historical swirls of humanity that make up our knowing. Junot Díaz’s wondrous first novel offers that and more, enchanting us with energetic poetry and offering us a splendid portrait of ordinary folks set against the extraordinary cruel history of the Dominican Republic in the 20th century.” —Edward P. Jones, author of *The Known World*

“Dark and exuberant...rich and playful...but mostly this fierce, funny, tragic book is just what a reader would have hoped for in a novel by Junot Díaz.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“Few books require a ‘highly flammable’ warning, but *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, Junot Díaz’s long-awaited first novel, will burn its way into your heart and sizzle your senses. Díaz’s novel is drenched in the heated rhythms of the real world as much as it is laced with magical realism and classic fantasy stories.”—*USA Today*

“*The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* is a book that speaks in tongues. This long-awaited novel by Junot Díaz is a masterpiece about our New World, its myths, curses, and bewitching women... *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* is radiant with the hard lives of those who leave and also those who stay behind—it is a rousing hymn about the struggle to defy bone-cracking history with ordinary, and extraordinary, love.”—Walter Mosley, author of *Devil in a Blue Dress* and *Cinammon Kiss*

“Readers who have had to wait a decade for Díaz’s first novel are now spectacularly rewarded.”—*Booklist* (starred review)

“Rich and vital...That Díaz accomplishes so much in his first novel is remarkable but not surprising. His short story collection of 1997, *Drown*, earned him stellar reviews; in the case of his first novel, the phrase ‘eagerly awaited’ is for once not hyperbole.” —*The Sunday Oregonian*

“What carries the book is Díaz’s voice, which is as distinct and energetic as it is multifarious. It’s this voice that inspires whatever pleasure, pathos and wonder we glean from Oscar Wao’s short, yearning life.”—*The Globe and Mail*

“Completely engrossing, alternating between sincere moments of heartbreak and hysterical historical context found in the footnotes...Funny and sad, this novel bears witness to a great deal of suffering and yet it won’t let you get away with pity, because pity is too distant an emotion. Díaz makes you care so much about these characters that once you’re done reading this novel, you’ll miss them.” —*Daily Press* (Newport News, Virginia)

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