

## Pat Mora

Pat Mora is a Latina poet and author. Born in El Paso, Texas in 1942 on the Mexico-US border, she grew up speaking English and Spanish at home. Her love of poetry started early: “I always liked poetry and I had lots of books in my house so I would just open them up and read.”

Mora became a teacher, a university administrator, and a writer inspired by her culture and childhood: “Many of my book ideas come from the desert where I grew up in the open spaces, wide sky, [and] all that sun.” Mora supports bilingual literacy programs. She is deeply involved in spreading “bookjoy” — exciting children to read at a young age. Her books *Tomas and the Library Lady*, *The Rainbow Tulip*, and *House of Houses* capture the imaginations of young readers. She currently lives and writes in Santa Fe, New Mexico.