

# 2025 Voices of Color

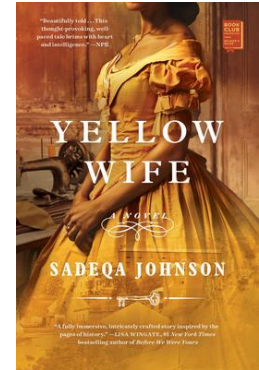
Feb 11, 2025 7 to 8 p.m.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81706214651?pwd=ILB7ZQA19Gs4UqicO9DNyfe0Xdl4S2.1>

## Yellow Wife A Novel [Sadeqa Johnson](#)

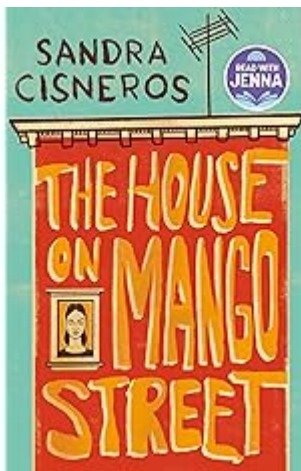
Born on a plantation in Charles City, Virginia, Pheby Delores Brown has lived a relatively sheltered life. Shielded by her mother's position as the estate's medicine woman and cherished by the Master's sister, she is set apart from the others on the plantation, belonging to neither world.

She'd been promised freedom on her eighteenth birthday, but instead of the idyllic life she imagined with her true love, Essex Henry, Pheby is forced to leave the only home she has ever known. She unexpectedly finds herself thrust into the bowels of slavery at the infamous Devil's Half Acre, a jail in Richmond, Virginia, where the enslaved are broken, tortured, and sold every day. There, Pheby is exposed not just to her Jailer's cruelty but also to his contradictions. To survive, Pheby will have to outwit him, and she soon faces the ultimate sacrifice.



April 3, 2025 7 to 8 p.m.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88200086160?pwd=C2gROLUGSCq7Fvae0zCaWkNu70zeoS.1>



## The House on Mango Street [Sandra Cisneros](#).

*The House on Mango Street* is a 1984 novel by Mexican-American author [Sandra Cisneros](#). Structured as a series of vignettes, it tells the story of Esperanza Cordero, a 12-year-old Chicana girl growing up in the Hispanic quarter of Chicago. Based in part on Cisneros's own experience, the novel follows Esperanza over the span of one year in her life, as she enters adolescence and begins to face the realities of life as a young woman in a poor and patriarchal community. Elements of the Mexican-American culture and themes of social class, race, sexuality, identity, and gender are

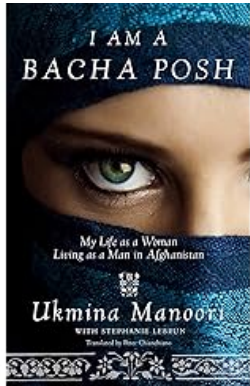
interwoven throughout the novel.

*The House on Mango Street* is considered a modern classic of [Chicano literature](#) and has been the subject of numerous academic publications in [Chicano studies](#) and [feminist theory](#). The book has sold more than 6 million copies, has been translated into over 20 languages and is required reading in many schools and universities across the United States.

# 2025 Voices of Color

July 21, 2025 7 to 8 p.m.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82318293344?pwd=rkobaVRigibf6CmsWHTrVfkpT3DHK.1>



## I Am a Bacha Posh

### My Life as a Woman Living as a Man in Afghanistan

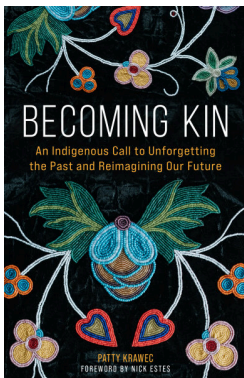
Ukkina Manoori, Stephanie Lebrun, Peter E. Chianchiano Jr.

"You will be a son, my daughter." With these stunning words Ukkina learned that she was to spend her childhood as a boy.

In Afghanistan there is a widespread practice of girls dressing as boys to play the role of a son. These children are called bacha posh: literally "girls dressed as boys." This practice offers families the freedom to allow their child to shop and work—and in some cases, it saves them from the disgrace of not having a male heir. But in adolescence, religion restores the natural law. The girls must marry, give birth, and give up their freedom.

November 4, 2025 7 to 8 p.m.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85493673785?pwd=Xy0NZ7ZVp2Y98OUkQ2wqPvcbr7Bw60.1>



## Becoming Kin: An Indigenous Call to Unforgetting the Past and Reimagining Our Future by Patty Krawec (Author) ...

We find our way forward by going back.

The invented history of the Western world is crumbling fast, Anishinaabe writer Patty Krawec says, but we can still honor the bonds between us. Settlers dominated and divided, but Indigenous peoples won't just send them all "home."

Weaving her own story with the story of her ancestors and with the broader themes of creation, replacement, and disappearance, Krawec helps readers see settler colonialism through the eyes of an Indigenous writer. Settler colonialism tried to force us into one particular way of living, but the old ways of kinship can help us imagine a different future. Krawec asks, What would it look like to remember that we are all related? How might we become better relatives to the land, to one another, and to Indigenous movements for solidarity? Braiding together historical, scientific, and cultural analysis, Indigenous ways of knowing, and the vivid threads of communal memory, Krawec crafts a stunning, forceful call to "unforget" our history.

This remarkable sojourn through Native and settler history, myth, identity, and spirituality helps us retrace our steps and pick up what was lost along the way: chances to honor rather than violate treaties, to see the land as a relative rather than a resource, and to unravel the history we have been taught.