



BOOK RESUME: THE HOUSE OF THE SPIRITS

BOOK SYNOPSIS

In a triumph of magic realism, Allende constructs a spirit-ridden world and fills it with colorful and all-too-human inhabitants. The Trueba family's passions, struggles, and secrets span three generations and a century of violent social change, culminating in a crisis that brings the proud and tyrannical patriarch and his beloved granddaughter to opposite sides of the barricades. Against a backdrop of revolution and counterrevolution, Allende brings to life a family whose private bonds of love and hatred are more complex and enduring than the political allegiances that set them at odds.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Extraordinary . . . Powerful . . . Sharply observant, witty and eloquent."
—Christopher Lehmann-Haupt, *The New York Times*

"Nothing short of astonishing. . . . In *The House Of The Spirits* Isabelle Allende has indeed shown us the relationships between past and present, family and nation, city and country, spiritual and political values. She has done so with enormous imagination, sensitivity, and compassion." —Jane Fatcher, *San Francisco Chronicle*

"Spectacular . . . A unique achievement, both personal witness and possible allegory of the past, present, and future of Latin America." —*The New York Times Book Review*

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

- ["Author Isabel Allende challenges anti-immigrant rhetoric, book bans and going 'backward' on women's rights," NBC News \(2024\)](#)

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