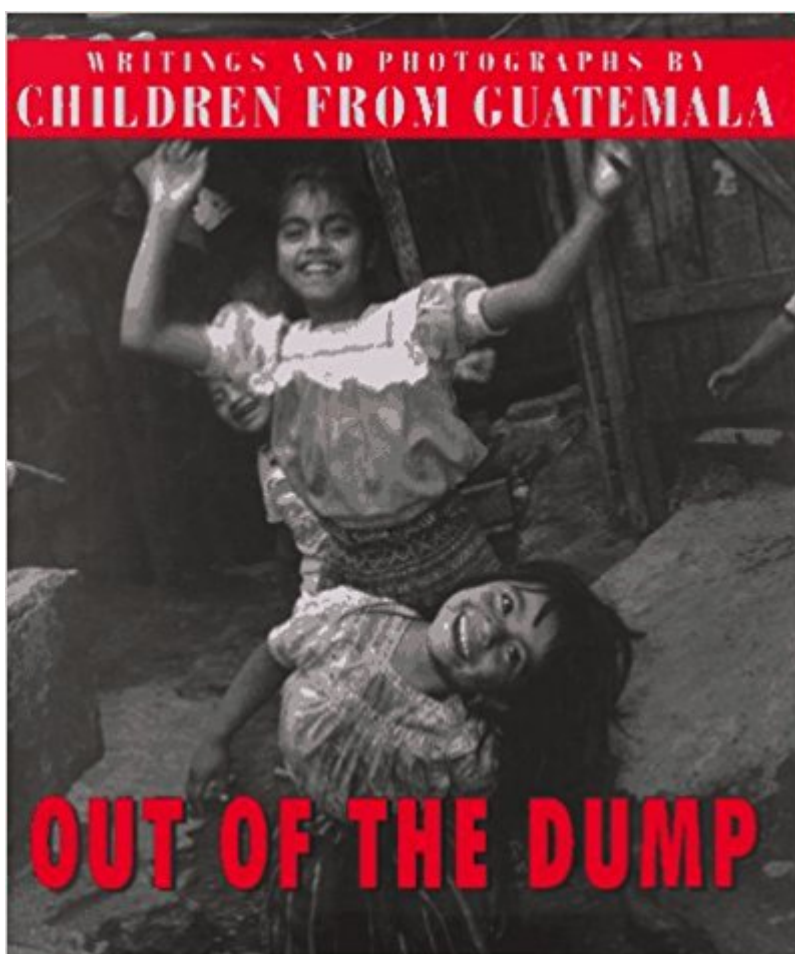


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# Out Of The Dump: Writings And Photographs By Children From Guatemala



## Synopsis

In Guatemala City, thousands of children live, eat and work in the smoldering garbage dump in the center of the city, collecting materials for recycling and scavenging for items to resell. In 1991, photographer Nancy McGirr decided to start a project in which the youngsters would photograph their own world with the profits used to allow the children to attend school. For these children, photography has become a door to the future.

## Book Information

Age Range: 9 and up

Hardcover

Publisher: HarperCollins Publishers; 1st edition (April 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 068813923X

ISBN-13: 978-0688139230

Product Dimensions: 11.3 x 9.6 x 0.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,117,519 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #102 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Poetry](#) #972 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > General](#) #1204 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino](#)

## Customer Reviews

Let's look at parenting from a child's view--Over 1,000 children live and scavenge in the Guatemala City garbage dump. In this stunning and heartbreaking book, the dump children photograph and write about their parents, siblings, animals, and about their plans for the future. Mirian Esquivel writes, "Women always have a lot of children because they fall in love when they're only fifteen years old." Rosario Lopez promises, "When I'm a mother, I'm going to educate my daughters." Gladiz Jimenez says, "My parents can't read. / They can only write their names. / Maybe I will be their teacher. / Ma me mi mo mu."

Photographer McGirr's introductory note presents a sobering account of the plight of the hundreds of poor children in Guatemala City who spend days scavenging through the city's central garbage dump, searching for items to recycle or resell. In 1991, as she was photographing such children,

she noticed that they were fascinated with her camera. With Konica Japan as corporate sponsor, McGirr launched the Out of the Dump project, which provides children with cameras, film, notebooks and shoes, encourages them to photograph their world and mandates that they attend school. Under Franklin's direction, the participants also began describing their lives in prose and poetry. While the quality of the writings reproduced here varies, the children's often impressively composed black-and-white photos convey uncanny insight. The hard-hitting pictures pay resonant tribute to the clearly worthwhile efforts of McGirr and Franklin. Proceeds from the book will benefit the Out of the Dump photography project. Ages 8-up. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Heard about this book while on a mission tour in Guatemala. Great book with good pictures.

I met the author of this book and it was everything that she said it was. I saw the dump where some children still live. This story is very true and is a big help to children in Guatemala

Interesting book.

Riviting pictures taken by kids themselves, to show what it is like to live on the margin in this Central American country. The book captures the complexity of life in the dump, and shows the real depth of character and resilience these kids have.

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