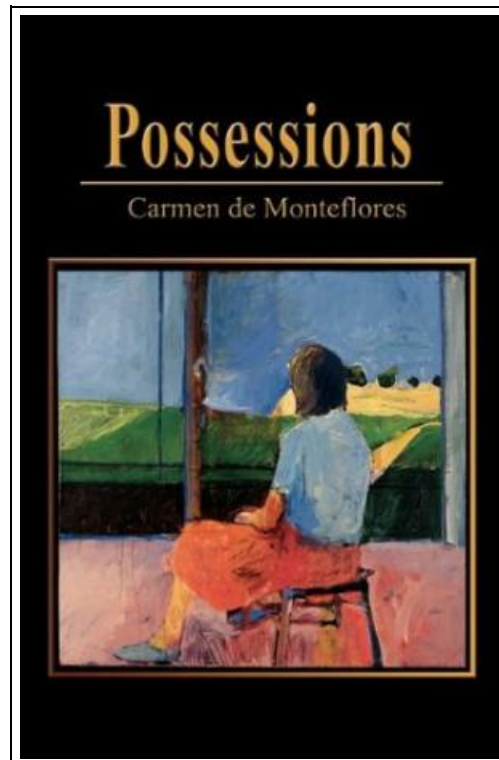


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Dog Ear Publishing, United States, 2009. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 213 x 137 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.POSSESSIONS tells the story of Meli and Lila, the Puerto Rican grandmother and her American granddaughter, separated for fifteen years by Lila's mother's buried hostility. Their secret reunion and Meli's death, fuel Lila's search through her grandmother's possessions to uncover the pain behind the strained family relationships. As Lila immerses herself in Meli's life, many questions arise: Did the film Meli intend to make showing her naked body ever get made and does it still exist? What was Meli's connection with the filmmaker, Marcos and with the model, Elaine? Why did Lila's mother, Felicia, reject her own mother? Meli's journals and tapes take Lila on a virtual journey from the luminous Northern California seashore to a surreal New York City of the 1950s, from the haunted Catholic girlhood in Puerto Rico to the revelatory birthing of a child in the Northern Plains, from innocence to violence and from terror to art. Through shifts in time and viewpoint, and through different narratives, Lila learns about Meli, the introverted Puerto Rican girl attending Catholic school, who is passionate about art and admires American culture. She reads about Meli's relationship with Papi, her father, who takes her to college in the U. S. Lila discovers the artwork Meli created in New York City and begins to understand Meli's longing for greater freedom in her life as an artist, despite being haunted by her history and the limitations of her restrictive upbringing. Carmen de Monteflores is a native Puerto Rican writer living in the U. S. She is the author of the well-received novel, *Cantando Bajito/ Singing Softly...*

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