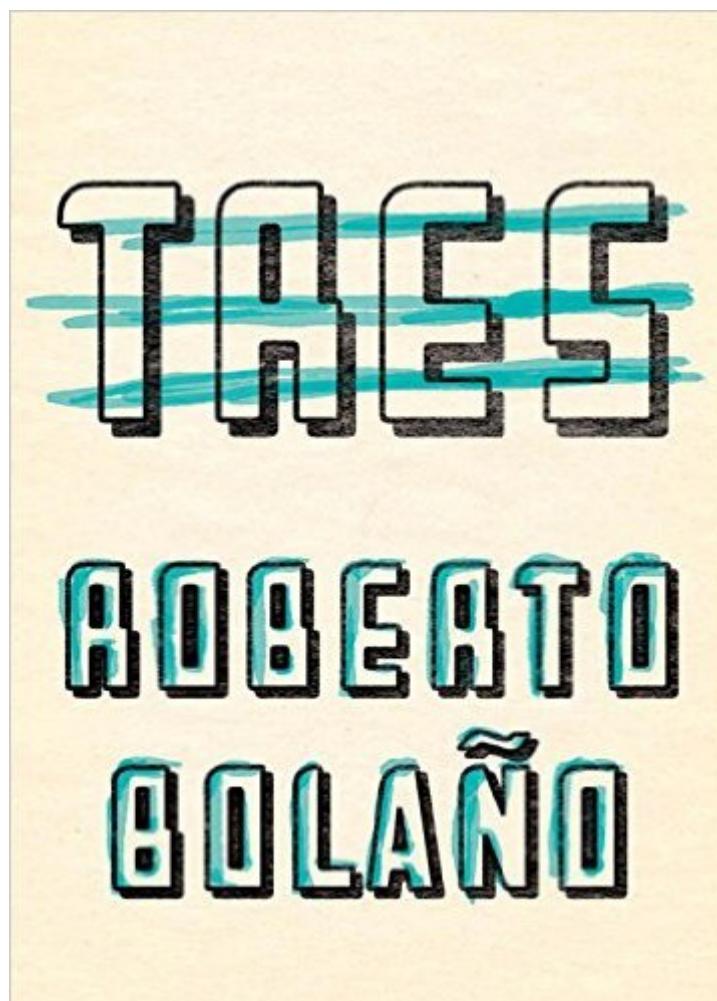


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Tres (Bilingual Edition)



Synopsis

“Poetry is braver than anyone,” Roberto Bolaño believed, and the proof is here in *Tres*, his most inventive and bracing poetry collection. Roberto Bolaño’s *Tres* is a showcase of the author’s willingness to freely cross genres, with poems in prose, stories in verse, and flashes of writing that can hardly be categorized. As the title implies, the collection is composed of three sections. “Prose from Autumn in Gerona,” a cinematic series of prose poems, slowly reveals a subtle and emotional tale of unrequited love by presenting each scene, shattering it, and piecing it all back together, over and over again. The second part, “The Neochileans,” is a sort of *On the Road* in verse, which narrates the travels of a young Chilean band on tour in the far reaches of their country. Finally, the collection ends with a series of short poems that take us on “A Stroll Through Literature” and remind us of Bolaño’s masterful ability to walk the line between the comically serious and the seriously comical.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

TRES is a compilation of three long poems, one written in 1981 and two in 1993, before Bolaño turned his energy to the composition of his major novels. It is a companion to another collection of poetry, *Los perros románticos* (The Romantic Dogs), which contains 43 poems dating from 1980 to 1998. Both volumes first appeared (in Spanish) in 2000. “The movement of a free mind at play” is how the American writer Cynthia Ozick once described the quality of a well-written essay, but I think it’s an equally appropriate description of most all of Bolaño’s writing, in all the varied literary forms

it assumed. Now that we are able to judge the remarkable sweep of his output -- from the sprawling novels like "2666" and "The Savage Detectives" to the short stories to Between Parentheses: Essays, Articles and Speeches, 1998-2003 -- I think it fair to say Bolaño's work is all "of a piece." His writing dissolves formal boundaries. That TRES is labelled as poetry is an irrelevance. If you are otherwise a fan of Bolaño's novels and stories but generally don't like "poetry," my advice is to ignore the poetry tag.

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