



Something to Declare: Essays (Paperback)

By Julia Alvarez

Algonquin Books, 2014. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . Brand New Book. Julia Alvarez has suitcases full of history (public and private), trunks full of insights into what it means to be a Latina in the United States, bags full of literary wisdom. Los Angeles Times From the internationally acclaimed author of the bestselling novels *In the Time of the Butterflies* and *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* comes a rich and revealing work of nonfiction capturing the life and mind of an artist as she knits together the dual themes of coming to America and becoming a writer. The twenty-four confessional, evocative essays that make up *Something to Declare* are divided into two parts. *Customs* includes Alvarez's memories of her family's life in the Dominican Republic, fleeing from Trujillo's dictatorship, and arriving in America when she was ten years old. She examines the effects of exile--surviving the shock of New York City life; yearning to fit in; training her tongue (and her mind) to speak English; and watching the Miss America pageant for clues about American-style beauty. The second half, *Declarations*, celebrates her passion for words and the writing life. She lets us watch...

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