



## The Fish Child

By *Lucía Puenzo*

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### The Fish Child By Lucía Puenzo

Affluent Lala and impoverished Guayi, her Paraguayan maid, are determined to pursue their romance despite overwhelming disparities in class and status. Although they have plotted a future together near Paraguay's Ypacaraí Lake, Guayi's native region, a shocking discovery and an even more shocking reaction lead Lala to depart without her disappeared lover. As she ventures by bus far from her privileged Buenos Aires home, Lala delves into Guayi's past, in due time encountering the disturbing legend of the fish boy who is said to guide drowning victims to the bottom of the lake. By turns sordid, thrilling, and comic, Puenzo's debut novel explores the character and choices of two strong-willed young women through the vehicle of the economic and social circumstances of two South American nations where archaic elements coexist with shrill modernity.

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### Editorial Review

#### From the Inside Flap

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#### About the Author

Lucía Puenzo, whose film adaptation of her first novel, *El Niño Pez* (The Fish Child), premiered at the 2009 Berlin Film Festival, earned her degree in literature at the University of Buenos Aires and studied at the National Film Institute. As a scriptwriter of feature films, documentaries, and miniseries for film and television, she received a foreign-language Oscar nomination and the Grand Prix de la Semaine de la Critique at the Cannes Film Festival for *XXY*. David William Foster is the Regents' Professor of Spanish and Women and Gender Studies at Arizona State University and the author of numerous works on Latino literature and culture.

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