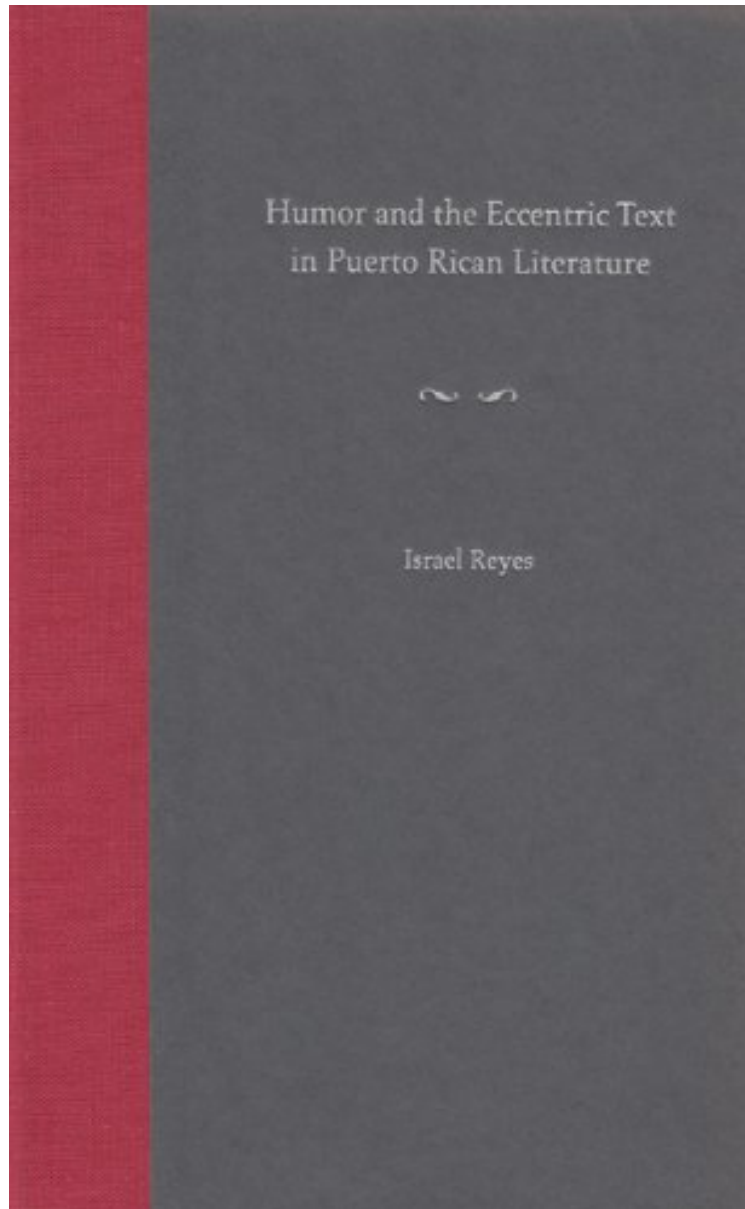


## Humor and the Eccentric Text in Puerto Rican Literature (New Directions in Puerto Rican Studies)

*Israel Reyes*

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Puerto Rican writers from the island and mainland have long used a variety of comic genres and forms to affirm an autonomous national identity and resist cultural hegemony and assimilation. The use of self-reflexive humor has allowed these writers to produce “eccentric texts” that reflect not only on their own textuality but also on their role as an intervention in the literary discourse on national identity. Reyes analyzes the works of Nemesio Canales, Luis Rafael Sánchez, Ana Lydia Vega, and Pedro Pietri to argue that their works resituate the parameters of national identity by blurring the lines between the subject and object of humor, the inside and outside of the text, and the here and there of the diasporic Puerto Rican nation.

...superb...offers a wealth of ideas to any scholar studying the theme of humour in contemporary literature...a major contribution... -- Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies  
About the Author  
Israel Reyes is associate professor of Spanish and Portuguese at Dartmouth College and author of several articles on Puerto Rican and Latino literature.