

Passetti, E. (2021). *Paulo Freire La Voz del Maestro*. (142 pages). Buenos Aires, Argentina: Siglo Veintiuno Editores. ISBN 978-987-629-800-1.

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This book is written in Spanish. The reviewer has interpreted its contents to provide a clear picture of it. The author explores the narrative as if he were holding a conversation about living, teaching, and transforming the world with a master. Paulo Freire's voice appears throughout the text as the author explores various topics wishing Freire were there to answer his questions. It is illustrated with beautiful hand-drawn caricatures along the page edges as if Freire were there providing metaphoric instances for the reader. It is divided into five chapters, each dealing with a specific question or idea. Chapter one is Freire's biography. Chapter two is about his dialogic method. Chapter three presents Freire within his public life. Chapter four showcases his ideas on liberation and chapter five brings Paulo Freire to life as if we were taking a walk with him today.

I would like to highlight this book in a very special way. It arrived very specially packaged from Argentina with a very specific message within, please acknowledge receiving it! As a Venezuelan Canadian, having moved from Venezuela in 1994, I can truly appreciate the value of this request. Currently living in Canada and having enjoyed twenty years of professional life in New York State, I can still remember how difficult it was for us, graduate students in Venezuela, to have access to information. We would have to withstand hardships and long waiting lines to acquire current, relevant and pertinent information as many outlets were closed to us at local public universities. In order to have the required readings for class, I would have to apply for authorization to access the professor's photocopy, provided at a somewhat doubtful photo-copying center which required I show identification papers and registration to the class. Gone are the days when growing up in a developing country like Venezuela, my access to truth was limited by the powers that be.

The prologue is by Ana Maria Araujo Freire (Nita), Freire's second wife, who is also a pedagogue from Brazil and contributor to many of his publications. Her parents owned the school that Freire attended as a child. She and Freire, although differing slightly in age, knew each other as children. As an author and university professor, she describes this as a "spoken" book created by Passetti (Freire's colleague and student in Sao Paulo, 1995-2000). She thanks the author and readers alike for sustaining his legacy.

As Passetti leads us onto these "spoken" walks with Freire we peer into his personal thoughts about survival, courage, and of joy. Each chapter challenges the reader, who knows how Freire thinks, to understand and actualize theories into actual issues and events. This book is like sharing a special time with you child, grand-child, relative, showing him/her the world through Freire's eyes.

Chapter one takes us to Freire's childhood in Recife Brazil. The conversations go back and forth in time. Passetti shares Freire's thoughts on today's world surrounded by

modern facilities against the lack of them during his childhood. Passetti formulates everyday questions that Freire addresses with candor, realism and honesty. Chapter two takes us through the dialogic process. Here Freire is critical of schools and universities that do not prepare students adequately for a changing world. Chapter three presents Freire as the public figure that he was and the means by which he could affect/effect change. Chapter five explores his liberative ideals. Finally, chapter six includes Passetti's own reflections and accounts about the life of Paulo Freire, which he so carefully described in previous chapters. Having audio-taped conversations with Freire aged 72, he ends this wonderful book with views and appreciations of his own.

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