

Reflection of Southland

Here at Pasadena City College we all live in California and if not in, near Los Angeles. Did you ever wonder the significance of Los Angeles? How it started, or its roots? I wouldn't blame you if you answered no to these questions being born and raised in L.A. I never thought to think about its history until reading the book Southland. Southland is basically an overview of what made L.A. today. The Author of Southland Nina Revoyr talks about the riots, diversity, racism, and just brief history of L.A in general. Through the story it follows the main character Jackie on her quest to discover a murder that occurred in her grandfather's shop. As the story progresses we get flashbacks and inside looks on the past.

Near the end of this novel, we were asked to do a research project based on the book. Since it did directly apply to my life about mixed relationships and so did my other teammates lives we decided to do our poster project on that topic. I found it interesting and alarming that mixed races have only been accepted for a solid decade now. Although I found that even though there are so many different ethnicities here in the United States people still choose to marry their own kind. I find this disappointing because people are still uncomfortable of the unknown and therefore still hold a slight bit of racism in their hearts.

To conclude our book Southland by Nina Revoyr, we got a chance to see her speak in person, which I found kind of exciting. When she walked on the stage and began to speak she is not what I expected at all, she was nice, kind, funny and dorky. She went through the process of how she developed the book Southland, which took her FOUR YEARS. To me that sounds like a lot of dedication and accurate research. I also liked that she pointed out the fact when people think of Los Angeles, they don't think of hard work and upcoming communities they automatically think Hollywood. Which she does state we should be proud of although California, and more specifically Los Angeles has more to offer than just Hollywood. During her speech I liked the way she talked about history. It is important to know where you came from to truly know yourself. I may not know everything about my history my family but I know enough to identify myself with the family name proudly.