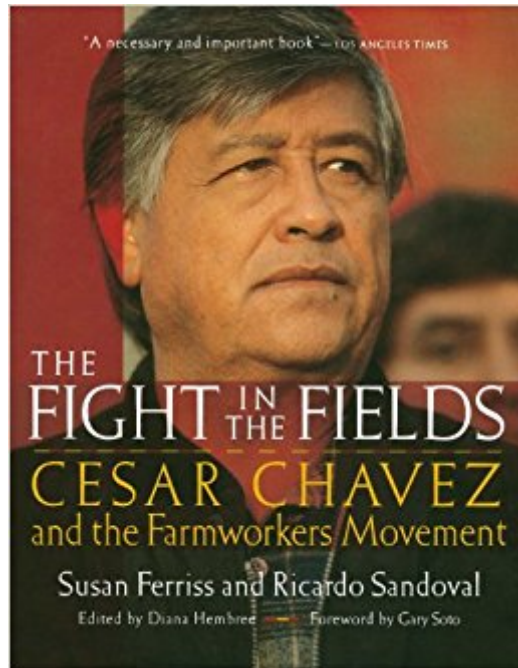




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# **The Fight In The Fields: Cesar Chavez And The Farmworkers Movement**



## Synopsis

A "vivid, well-documented account of the farmworkers movement" (Philadelphia Inquirer) and its prime mover, Cesar Chavez. Edited by Diana Hembree with a foreword by Gary Soto and essays by Carey McWilliams, Victor Villaseñor, Alfredo Valdez, Jr., Peter Matthiessen, Rudolfo Anaya, and others. Black-and-white photographs throughout.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

When the Chavez family lost its farm in Arizona in 1938 during the Depression, they moved to California and became migrant workers. Cesar was outraged by the exploitation, racism, and brutality that migrant farmworkers were forced to endure. His strong religious convictions, a dedication to nonviolent change, and a skill at organizing led to the establishment of the United Farmworkers (UFW) union. "La Causa," as it was called by supporters, became an important movement for self-determination in the lives of California's Mexican American and Filipino farmworkers. The successful nationwide grape and lettuce boycotts and public support exposed the injustices of California agribusiness and resulted in the first collective bargaining agreements and union hiring halls for migrant workers. Authored by two journalists who covered Chavez and the farmworkers, this companion volume to a PBS documentary traces Chavez's life and the events and people that helped shape it. Recommended for labor and agriculture collections. Irwin Weintraub, Rutgers Univ. Lib., New Brunswick, Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

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Cesar Chavez, the founder of the United Farm Workers union, was a man of principles and piety, dedicated, as Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr., were, to strategies of nonviolent protest. Still controversial, Chavez is, nonetheless, beginning to fade from our collective consciousness. To preserve his story, two filmmakers, Rick Tejada-Flores and Ray Telles, created a PBS documentary titled *The Fight in the Fields*, and journalists Ferriss and Sandoval wrote and compiled this powerful, photo-filled biography. They trace Chavez's path from a happy childhood on his family's Arizona farm to the fields of California, where the Chavez family landed after being forced from home during the Depression and the great drought. Chavez never got over his shock at the brutality of farmworkers' lives and the blatant racism they endured. He founded the United Farm Workers union in 1962 to fight for basic human rights, devoting himself to union work at night after picking cotton all day with his wife to support their eight children. All that Chavez accomplished by organizing strikes, protests, and the now legendary grape boycott, was heroic in nature and profound in effect. Donna Seaman --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

If you are interested in learning about Cesar Chavez or you work with a labor organization this would be a one to read. I work in a new type of labor organization and I love learning about Cesar and the labor issues that they have had and still dealing with.

I didn't know a lot about unions and the labor movement, prior to reading this book. This book was extremely informative! I read it for a class, but learned so much about the history of unions in my home state of California. In addition, my current employer has a union and it helped me more fully understand how a union functions.

An amazing book on one of the most influential Xicano leaders of our times. Very thorough with historical and behind-the-scenes facts

great quality and great read

Great text for beginners! I was assigned this textbook for my Chicano studies class and I can actually say I enjoyed reading through this and have learned a lot!

I was fortunate enough to contact a woman who was featured in this book. Our library hosted a

program and she and 2 other women were the guest speakers. Wonderful book that needs to be in every library collection.

I am enjoying what I learned in southwestern history in college. It is a very informative book and have it out. Anne Stickles

Informative

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