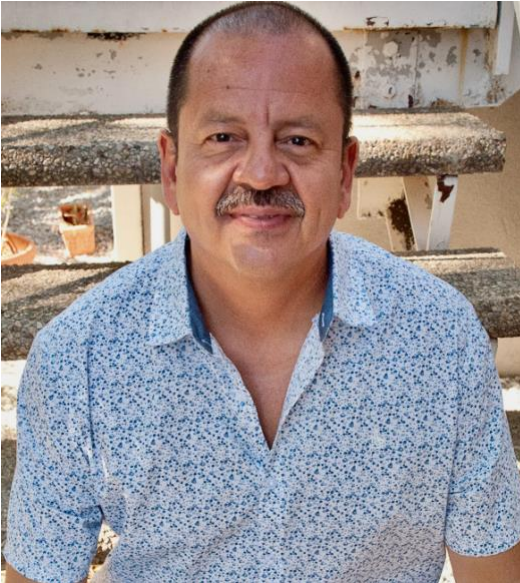


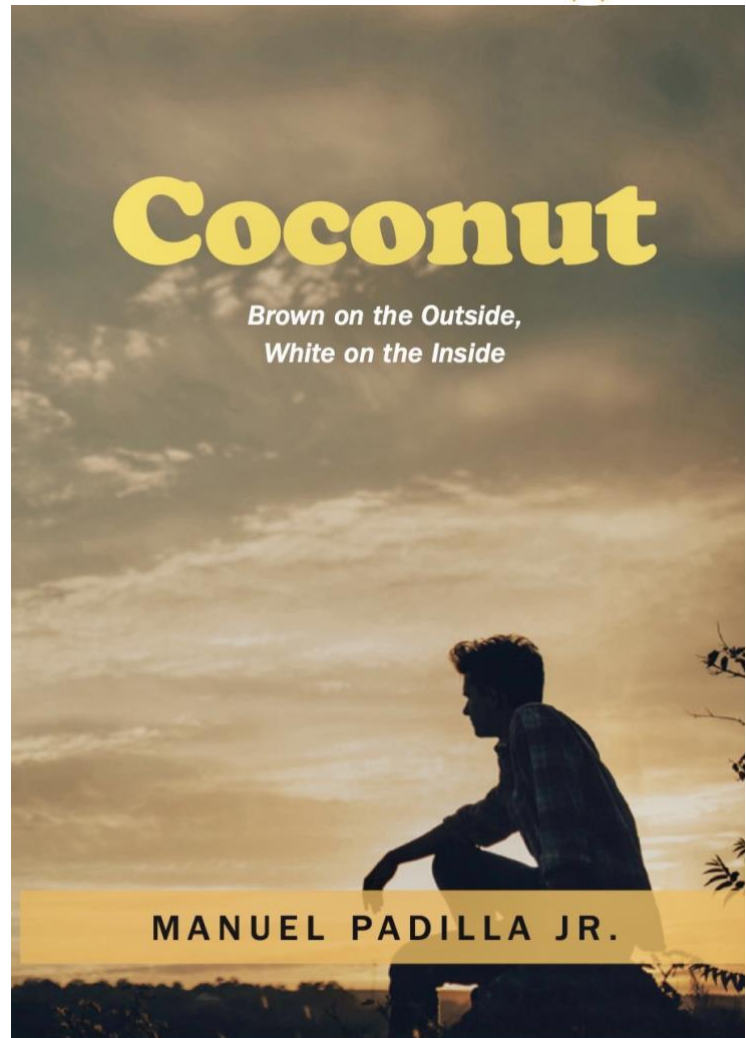
Manuel Padilla Jr.



Manuel “Manny” Padilla Jr. has 36 years of award-winning writing experience in the media and publishing worlds, working as a newspaper reporter and editor; marketing, public relations and advertising professional; and public speaker. He has written pieces which have appeared in the *Los Angeles Times* and other publications. He was also a regular columnist for the *Los Angeles Daily News*. “Coconut” is his debut novel, and he is presently working on his second book.

Speaking Topics:

- Minorities in the Media
- Marketing & Public Relations
- The experience of non-Spanish speaking Latino Americans



“Coconut” explores the often humorous, sometimes painful experiences of a Mexican-American family during the turbulent 1960’s and 1970’s, a time when Latinos were treated as “wetbacks” despite being U.S. citizens. Like many during the time, they don’t even speak Spanish. Central to this is the reality of racism as seen through the eyes of a child.

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818-298-0947

MPadillaJunior@gmail.com

www.manuelpadillajr.com

