

In February the LLC Book Group read **My Beloved World** by Sonia Sotomayor. This memoir describes in detail Sotomayor's early life growing up in housing projects in the Bronx. Her recounting of living in a Spanish speaking home, in poverty, with an alcoholic father and a sometimes depressed and absent mother, makes her rise to the US Supreme Court impressive.

Sotomayor developed juvenile diabetes at age seven and refers to her disease throughout the book explaining how managing her care enhanced her self-discipline and decision making in other aspects of her life. In fact, it was because of her diagnosis that she decided to become a lawyer.

Sotomayor achieved many accomplishments throughout her schooling, including becoming Valedictorian of her Catholic high school class and receiving many honors at Princeton and Yale Law School. She acknowledges how affirmative action aided her admission into Ivy League schools, but that perseverance and hard work catapulted her there.

Sotomayor discusses her brief marriage and her professional career before being nominated to the US Supreme Court. The memoir does not describe court cases or her judicial philosophy. Rather this book bravely describes how Sonia Sotomayor became the first Hispanic and third woman Supreme Court justice by pushing past the limits of her early childhood.