

# philippine studies

Ateneo de Manila University • Loyola Heights, Quezon City • 1108 Philippines

---

**Mga Gerilya sa Powell Street**  
**by Benjamin Pimentel**

## **Book Notes**

***Philippine Studies* vol. 57, no. 1 (2009): 147**

Copyright © Ateneo de Manila University

---

Philippine Studies is published by the Ateneo de Manila University. Contents may not be copied or sent via email or other means to multiple sites and posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's written permission. Users may download and print articles for individual, noncommercial use only. However, unless prior permission has been obtained, you may not download an entire issue of a journal, or download multiple copies of articles.

Please contact the publisher for any further use of this work at [philstudies@admu.edu.ph](mailto:philstudies@admu.edu.ph).

<http://www.philippinestudies.net>

PIMENTEL, BENJAMIN

## **Mga Gerilya sa Powell Street**

Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila University Press, 2007. 231 pages.

*Mga Gerilya sa Powell Street* is a poignant novel set in the cold streets and damp apartment buildings of San Francisco. It tells the stories of Fidel, Ciriaco, Ruben, Badong, and Major who fought, in their youthful years, for the country's freedom as soldiers during the Second World War. Now that they are old and gray, they risk their lives once more for another mission across the seas. The book gives life to the silent tragedy endured by the war veterans almost as soon as they land in the United States. Having survived the atrocities of the previous world war, and hoping to provide a better life for their families as the struggle for a better society continues, the veterans brave the cold, hunger, and loneliness in San Francisco's Powell Street and thereabouts, as they wait, sometimes cheerfully, often despairingly, for what is due them. Seemingly being met with frustration at every turn in this new battle for veterans' benefits, only their bittersweet memories of home, unbreakable bonds with their fellow *gerilya*, never-say-die sense of humor, and the tenacious dream of one day being able to finally go back to their beloved homeland sustain them. This is the first novel of Pimentel, a journalist and documentary filmmaker. It features the work of well-regarded photographer Rick Rocamora on the cover. It won the 2007 National Book Award for Fiction, given by the Manila Critics Circle and the National Book Development Board, and the Juan C. Laya Award for Fiction in Filipino.

SCHAFFER, FREDERIC CHARLES, ED.

## **Elections for Sale: The Causes and Consequences of Vote Buying**

Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila University Press, 2007. 226 pages.

Different methods are applied in this systematic study of vote buying in various parts of the world, including the Philippines. The book has four main areas: the significance and nature of vote buying; its causes and logistics; its consequences in terms of shaping political and economic outcomes;