Ana Menéndez was born in Los Angeles, the daughter of Cuban exiles. She is the author of four books of fiction, *In Cuba I Was a German Shepherd*, which was a 2001 New York Times Notable book of the year and whose title story won a Pushcart Prize, *Loving Che* (2004), *The Last War* (2009) chosen by Publishers Weekly as one of the top 100 books of the year, and *Adios, Happy Homeland!*

Since 1991 Ana has worked as a journalist in the United States and abroad, most recently as a prize-winning columnist for The Miami Herald. As a reporter, she has written about Cuba, Haiti, Kashmir, Afghanistan and India, where she was based for three years. She has a B.A. in English from Florida International University and an M.F.A. from New York University. A former Fulbright Scholar in Egypt, she now lives in Maastricht and Miami.