Abstract
The phoenix is an invincible mythological bird that is consumed by fire only to arise again from its own ashes. In Miguel Angel Asturias’s El señor presidente and Manlio Argueta’s Un día en la vida de Manlio Argueta, the regenerative forces enshrined in love and social revolution frequently are linked metaphorically to birds, and thus these metaphors evoke the eternal cycle of destruction and recreation of the phoenix. In both novels, the struggle to transcend tyranny has as much to do with the power of love to transcend death as with the power of social revolution to construct a new world from the ashes of oppression.

Keywords
The phoenix, the power of love, social revolution, metaphor, regeneration