

LA AMERICANA

The numbers are somewhere around 14 million. That's how many illegal immigrants live and work in this country under a system that neither allows them to return to their native lands without barring them from re-entry, nor grants them the opportunity to pursue the American Dream in a lasting and meaningful way. *La Americana* puts a human face on this dilemma, as it follows the travails of Carmen, a beautiful and intelligent illegal from Bolivia, who smuggled herself into the U.S. in order to earn enough money to pay her daughter's medical bills.

Unfortunately the people who should be watching Carmen struggle with her heart-rending choices probably won't come to see this moving and compassionate study of very real people caught up in the cruel circus of our country's immigration policies. They'll be too busy shouting about building giant walls on our southern border, or shipping millions of hard-working, decent people back home. A pity. (9 p.m. Thursday at RST; 8:45 p.m. Friday at RST)

— Al Krulick