



## With the River on Our Face (Camino del Sol)

*Emmy Pérez*

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Emmy Pérez's poetry collection *With the River on Our Face* flows through the Southwest and the Texas borderlands to the river's mouth in the Rio Grande Valley/El Valle. The poems celebrate the land, communities, and ecology of the borderlands through lyric and narrative utterances, auditory and visual texture, chant, and litany that merge and diverge like the iconic river in this long-awaited collection.

Pérez reveals the strengths and nuances of a universe where no word is "foreign." Her fast-moving, evocative words illuminate the prayers, gasps, touches, and gritos born of everyday discoveries and events. Multiple forms of reference enrich the poems in the form of mantra: ecologist's field notes, geopolitical and ecofeminist observations, wildlife catalogs, trivia, and vigil chants.

"What is it to love / within viewing distance of night / vision goggles and guns?" is a question central to many of these poems.

The collection creates a poetic confluence of the personal, political, and global forces affecting border lives. Whether alluding to El Valle as a place where toxins now cross borders more easily than people or wildlife, or to increased militarization, immigrant seizures, and twenty-first-century wall-building, Pérez's voice is intimate and urgent. She laments, "We cannot tattoo roses / On the wall / Can't tattoo Gloria Anzaldúa's roses / On the wall"; yet, she also reaffirms Anzaldúa's notions of hope through resilience and *conocimiento*.

*With the River on Our Face* drips deep like water, turning into *amistad*—an inquisition into human relationships with planet and self.

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### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Louise Graham:**

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read a new book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent all day every day to reading a publication. The book With the River on Our Face (Camino del Sol) it is rather good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book possesses high quality.

#### **Garnet Veach:**

In this era globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information much easier to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher that will print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended to you is With the River on Our Face (Camino del Sol) this book consist a lot of the information of the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented how can the world has grown up. The vocabulary styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. The particular writer made some exploration when he makes this book. Honestly, that is why this book suitable all of you.

#### **Danielle Hawkins:**

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