NO ANSWERS—NOW OR EVER

On Sept. 19, 2005, a baby boy was born & died at milepost 19 on the Arivaca Rd. In late 2015 he was identified as “Arizaga.”

No matter how many times I ask you do not answer my question you leave me only with this ten years ago you birthed a baby along an Arizona roadside what created this child love or rape

I ask did you leave for a better life for both of you more safety less dirt floors, broken glass, hunger move north no money take a chance start alone promise money later start with a lover no promise you do not answer my questions

No matter how many times I ask you do not answer, instead you walk, walk, walk, thirst hunger, tire, walk farther no birds, no shade, no water drink your urine your body rebels you fall, struggle, now alone now, always alone

No matter how many times I ask did the road look like a good place maybe help, maybe water, had the pains begun faster and faster did you stop, lie down, try not to scream try not to push when the small body slid out between your legs blood and water no breath cord around its neck you hold your tongue

I ask did you cut the cord take the knife you carried separate yourself from that small bundle of unbreathing flesh did you take diapers from your backpack, wrap this babe born on borrowed land leave it for animals or someone you cannot answer this

No matter how many times I ask you cannot answer did you hold this bundle of death weep and tell about the life that might have happened work, play, school, laughter ice cream, toys, baseball did you share this under stars that night when there were no angels, shepherds, or magi

Only endless dark silence the smell of blood and death

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