

Sun, Moon, Stars, and Wind
Remembering Miguel
May 2011

You face the Arizona desert
sun-beat earth under cloudless sky
night's bright cold catches in your throat

You take coyote's pace
travel a narrow winding path
through mountains and arroyos
believe his trickster talk
his kind way lets you sleep
leaves you behind

You come this way
told there is a job half an hour away
no water all day, none in sight
you walk, run, hide in fear

Alone, you remember home, loved ones
your sister's wedding, mariachi music
the sound of tortillas frying in the kitchen
your mouth holds again that last kiss
left behind, you walk three days, lost

Too tired, you stop in the first shade
rest, dream that other time and place
old prayers fill your mind, cross your lips
here you stay night and day
your breath slows, stops
sun, moon, stars, and wind

- Marie Vogl Gery