

Oración del Sueño Americano
(Prayer of the American Dream)

*...for here there is no place
that does not see you. You must change your life.
Rainer Maria Rilke, Archaic Torso of Apollo*

This is the new math : halt the multiplication
division by subtraction :: refuge denied
discarded artifacts :: discarded lives
click *Padre nuestro*

Deemed migrant contraband to be confiscated
by Customs and Border Protection
to be bagged then dumpstered out:
click *que estás en el cielo*

blankets, toilet paper, tins of tuna
black plastic canteens, dressed or bare
endless tubes of toothpaste
click *santificado sea tu nombre*

Yet one janitor saw something to be done
food to be donated to the local pantry
pictures to take stories to tell art to make
click *venga tu reino*

Toilet paper collage sunflower mosaic
from deodorant & lighters & cigarettes
Witness to loss: wallets & keys & personal IDs
click *hágase tu voluntad*

Condoms collage: Life Style, Trojans, Skyn
SIMI Condón and more in bright display
that speaks of passion & hope
click *en la tierra como en el cielo*

Rosaries—in plastic or stone or wood
green & white & yellow & gem tones
one in red & black, colors of the bullring
click *danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día*

