

Call Me Libertad: Poems Between Borders

Edited by
Alicia Partnoy,
Christina Fialho,
and Kristina Shull



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Published in the United States by Community Initiatives for Visiting
Immigrants in Confinement (CIVIC), San Francisco, California, 2016.

Community Initiatives for Visiting Immigrants in Confinement
(CIVIC) is a national nonprofit working to end the isolation
and abuse of people in U.S. immigration detention through
visitation, independent monitoring, storytelling, and advocacy.

www.endisolation.org

Book design and composition by Art24 *www.art24.co-uk*.
Cover design by Marcela Castro.
Background image of *Desert Flowers* by J.P. Rose.

About the Editors

Alicia Partnoy is a poet, translator, and survivor of the Argentine genocide. She is best known for her memoir, *The Little School: Tales of Disappearance and Survival* (Cleis Press, 1998). Her most recent book is the poetry collection, *Flowering Fires [Fuegos Florales]* (Settlement House Books, 2015), and other works include *Little Low Flying [Volando bajito]* (Red Hen Press, 2005), *Revenge of the Apple [Venganza de la manzana]* (Cleis Press, 1992), and with Gail Wronsky, *So Quick Bright Things [Tan pronto las cosas]* (What Books Press, 2010). Partnoy teaches at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, and presides over Proyecto VOS-Voices of Survivors.

Christina Fialho is an attorney and the co-founder/executive director of CIVIC. She serves on the Board of Directors of the ACLU of Southern California and the Steering Committee of the Detention Watch Network. She is a 2012 Echoing Green Fellow and a 2013 Rockwood Leadership Institute Fellow. Christina has a blog on the Huffington Post, and she provides frequent commentary for both traditional and new media, including MSNBC, The Washington Times, The Hill, Voice of Orange County, JURIST, and others. Her scholarly work has been published by Refugee Survey Quarterly: An Oxford Journal, the Forced Migration Review, and Springer Publishing. Christina also has produced award-winning documentary and non-narrated shorts. She is the daughter and granddaughter of immigrants from the Azores and Madeira, Portugal.

Kristina Shull is a Lecturer in History at the University of California, Irvine. She received a B.A. in History from the University of California at Los Angeles, an M.A. in Humanities and Social Thought from New York University, and a Ph.D. in History from the University of California at Irvine. She also has taught at the University of Southern California. Her work explores the origins of the modern U.S. immigration detention system and prison privatization in the early 1980s at the intersections of Ronald Reagan's foreign and immigration policies. Kristina is a contributor to Oxford University's Border Criminologies blog, has worked as a researcher for the Detention Watch Network, and has published numerous essays on immigration detention, the Mariel Cuban migration, the War on Drugs, the War on Terror, and anti-immigrant movements in the United States. She is currently working on a book manuscript titled *Invisible Bodies: Reagan's Immigration Crisis and America's First Private Prisons*. She also has been directly affected by the U.S. immigration detention system as the spouse of a former detainee.

Acknowledgements

Most of the poems in this book were produced in a bilingual workshop, “Therapeutic and Transformative Storytelling,” led by Alicia Partnoy at CIVIC’s national retreat (Malibu, California, September 1, 2015). Special thanks to Poets & Writers who funded this workshop through grants it received from The James Irvine Foundation and the Hearst Foundations. We also thank the writers and activists, Sarah Shourd and Ana Amalia Guzmán Molina, who conducted writing skills trainings for the authors of this book. We also thank Rev. Helen T. Boursier, who led many of the authors of this book in a guided reflection, called “Ya Me Voy,” or “Enough, I go” prior to the storytelling workshop.

Above all, we would like to acknowledge the courageous immigrants who have inspired this book, their selfless family members, and the CIVIC volunteers who visit people each week. Together, they are the reformers and the revolutionaries of the present day.



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“As this volume attests through the power of poetry, immigration detention in the United States is an affront to human dignity. Let the beauty, sadness, the humanity, and the dignity that is captured in these pages be a part of the long struggle to end immigration detention.”

Alison Parker, Co-director, US Program, Human Rights Watch

“There is no justification for the extreme isolation immigrants in detention face in this country. When I was isolated for 410 days as a political prisoner in Iran, the only thing that made me feel like I could survive was knowing that I was not forgotten on the outside. This book reminds all people in detention and their families that they are not alone, and they are not forgotten. Even more, the collective power of these voices shines a light of hope on a dark, unjust practice.”

*Sarah Shourd, CIVIC Ambassador & Editor of Hell Is a Very Small Place:
Voices from Solitary Confinement*

“Poets & Writers is pleased to have provided support for the CIVIC writing workshop that helped bring the stories and poems of immigrants formerly detained and their allies to light. The telling and transmission of these experiences plays a vital role in bringing about understanding, change, and the reaffirmation of human dignity.”

*Jamie Asaye FitzGerald, California Office and Readings
& Workshops (West) Director, Poets & Writers, Inc.*

“CIVIC’s work is crucial because it provides a platform for people whose voices have been silenced and it helps tell the stories of the millions of human beings who have been detained and subjected to a broken and inhumane system. This compelling book will make you dream of a better country, a better world without immigration detention.”

*Sara Weiss, CIVIC Board Member & Senior Editor
at Ballantine Books, Random House*