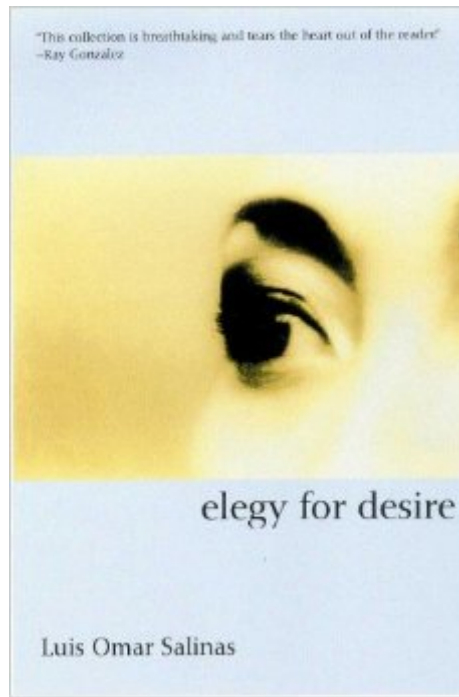


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Elegy For Desire (Camino Del Sol)



Synopsis

The most difficult poems to write Are those of love and those of death. I'm half in love and half dead. It stands to reason that I've come upon a difficult task. Despite his disclaimer, it seems no difficult task at all. One of the pioneers of Chicano poetry and a highly esteemed artist in the Mexican American community, Luis Omar Salinas is a poet with Tex-Mex bordertown roots whose work is studied at the Sorbonne. Beginning with his legendary first book, *Crazy Gypsy*, he has been a major figure not only in Chicano literature but in all of American poetry—both a poet of the people and a voice for other poets. In *Elegy for Desire*, Salinas has crafted visionary poems about growing older and looking back on a rich life of poetry. In this quiet yet hallucinatory volume, Salinas offers us a prismatic collection of odes, elegies, and cantos of desire—complex poems about our place in the world. Poems to be savored in solitude, or better still with an intimate companion. Few poets, Latino or otherwise, are as daring with love poetry that is so honestly fierce. Salinas gives us a meditation on gently aging while continuing to celebrate personal experience that draws upon the world. One need only sample these rich, elegant stanzas to recognize the wealth of wisdom found in their words. *Elegy for Desire* is a testament to a singular talent that has survived for decades . . . and will continue to inspire long beyond his lifetime. The dead can't complain, and lovers always do. Well, I'm here, and that is important. And if life can be as exciting as this, I must be doing something right.

Book Information

Series: Camino del Sol

Paperback: 96 pages

Publisher: University of Arizona Press (April 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0816524629

ISBN-13: 978-0816524624

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.3 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #266,188 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > United States > Hispanic American #153 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Love Poems #870 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Themes & Styles

Customer Reviews

I have read the manuscript for this book and I am very impressed with the author's imagery, imagination and exquisite use of the short descriptive phrase. I truly believe he is one of the greatest modern poets writing today. In a world of bland conformity and imitation, his poetry is refreshingly original and unlike anyone else's. I cannot recommend this book highly enough.

I thought this was a very good book by Mr. Salinas, written towards the end of his life.

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