

From a Poet to her Rumbero  
*after La Media Vuelta/ Rumberos de Cuba*

*ojalá que te vaya bonito*  
#aunquepudedartetodo pero  
i'm saying *te vas porque*  
i can't listen en mis audífonos  
my body wild y tú cool lake

estas frío punto  
i'm a dying sky of eagles  
i'm a mess of fever  
i'm so cansada de waiting  
no i'm not thoroughbred  
que me chingan

to touch the underside of sea  
i'm cutting you out now  
we both know if you call i'm there  
you've got to be kidding me  
*te detengo*  
survived girlhood y todo

grey mirada turned ice y todo  
i'm protected by light  
until i know all your harmony  
i replay el coro con mi boca  
you say i am forgive ness  
pero nene *quiero que te vayas*

*quiero que te besen otros labios*  
you say suerte con tu love  
you flirt with my blood  
you think you'll fuck my canto

you cry me down to ceremony  
because she wants what i want  
Rumbero you hold my baby  
you say gracias over y  
i listen to gracias porque now or never  
in San Juan once tostones wet our mouths

y once we were in love  
because we knew it would never  
y once we died  
as gold as Atabex y Rumbero  
lo de mi ex novia— no te pongas así:  
*toda mi vida se fue con ella* until you

*ojalá #quetedenloquenopudedarte*  
i'm done i'm jalta i'm crowded  
*quiero que te vayas*  
porque me haces falta  
i want it siempre vulnerable

me dejas mojada nene  
i'm arrowed into it  
i'm wicked i'm burnt  
i'm waxing light  
fuck them for asking  
i'm diving straight down

i swindle myself first  
pero entiéndeme  
it's survival nene  
*a la hora que yo quiera*  
through the dead sea y todo  
salt burning my skin y todo

i'm blessed with ancestor names  
tú cantas y cantas y cantas  
but i won't beg you to see me  
you say i am the pit  
you say the ocean  
*por el mundo* i promise

you say devotion  
you say its salt unafraid  
y i want to slap  
in Huitepec

you tell the girl coqueteando  
that you don't want to kiss  
i let down in the temezcal  
over y over inside the fire  
we were once

y once we made an ocean of parting  
but we hoped  
y once there was batata y mouths  
i'll tell you once more about my ex love  
how i kissed her was like cake  
Rumbero mala tuya pero mala mía

*te juro me muero*  
lights across the sky y todo  
but which name will be our último?  
i slip my tongue i future trip  
i'm fighting you inside my mind  
i see myself in my bed

both fists to your astral double  
all heated  
you leave me a little bit  
in every song  
y tus feelings  
estoy levantándome de mi cama

wicked swept  
i'm taught to let you miss  
*pero por qué se acabaron?*  
i miss your tongue  
take my hand to your chest  
i'm pounding

like malt liquor down my throat  
i'm all your ex novias's  
names rolled in one

i'm through i'm wet  
in San Juan i'm skyping my curandero  
i'm seeking an answer to the problem of

i can't get enough  
por qué se acabaron?  
trouble was my middle name  
i couldn't believe in how  
ella me singó cada noche

now i'll never take another's dime  
i was her puta on a mattress  
y still y still y still Rumbero  
she left me for another femme y still

before i finished loving sky  
i found you there below

my sleep all fevered y now  
¿do you want this like your double?  
here floor to ceiling glass sun soaks  
yerba buena y you poet me

*si tú te vas Rumbero*  
we will say it to all our beloveds  
i burn light i sage corners  
i dig the silk kimono i wear it at night  
i'm bad at missing  
i see myself in your bed

lap lit lakeside  
el Rumbero in front of his fire  
in every song you leave her a little bit  
Rumbero mala tuya pero mala mía  
Estoy jalta de esto y  
magicked by you

i'm taught to wait  
*¿se acabaron los ratos*  
i'm in tongues  
the way you first kiss  
like a slow dance  
anything but your song

i'm like none of your ex novias  
y tú lo sabes

i'm Rumba on the corner

*¿se acabaron los ratos pero*  
Rumbero my ex novia said  
i believed in her but  
she gave me stacks of hundreds  
so i'd sleep good

i was her wife i was faithful siempre

i took her back y when i left last  
i learned to quit  
rise alone on a rooftop y todo  
i wanted to jump instead i kingged to astral

i watch myself like it's a movie  
*¿verdad? ¿estoy enamorada de tu doble?*  
you gift cherries y fresh gold  
when you truth like that  
when you say it to María

y después Amalia *Rumbero, si encuentras en ella*  
y sientes que *te quiere más que a nadie*

an echo curled to your chest  
*yo daré la media vuelta*

*cuando muera la tarde*

i'll taste how it feels when she leaves

how the sky swells  
the sweet wickedness of a bedroom  
that makes timeless

*un amor que te comprenda*

i'll take you on the lake with my double

when joyful is a leap of grace *y me iré con el sol*

i'll see her stay with one cherry  
seed in her mouth

y how she levitates

i'll wonder at how her mouth  
harmonizes on its own