

Flood: Years of Solitude

By **Dionisio D. Martínez**

To the one who sets a second place at the table anyway.

To the one at the back of the empty bus.

To the ones who name each piece of stained glass projected on a white wall.

To anyone convinced that a monologue is a conversation with the past.

To the one who loses with the deck he marked.

To those who are destined to inherit the meek.

To us.

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Source: *Bad Alchemy* (W. W. Norton and Company Inc., 1995)



Dionisio D. Martínez was born in Havana, Cuba and now makes his home in Tampa, Florida. Although Martinez never received a formal college education, his poetry has been hailed as original and contemporary, and he has been called a “formidable talent.” He has been awarded fellowships by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim Foundation, and the Whiting Foundation.