

hurricane san ciriaco 1899 pr

By María Luisa Arroyo

mama & papa say
they are used to winds
that peel back zinc
from the roof like skin
but this time
the world
is drowning
café tabaco ñame batata
drowning
papa cut a notch
on the wall
for each day
now 28
this hurricane
has stayed
mamá burns candles
tells me again
about deminán
& turtle woman
how they created
boriquén
my head to her chest
listen:

bo es grande
bibi es mamá
bi es vida
baba es papá