

ALGUN

DE

PERROS

OMAR PIMIENTA

Translated by Jose Antonio Villarán



1.

My father reminded me of my father  
waved his incomplete hand in an incomplete greeting  
always whistled while he worked  
Marcos Ramírez López (Tecolotlán, Jalisco 1929)

10 out of 10 fathers will die in this life

single digit catastrophes  
the finger's half life  
the fingerprint and its ghost

he turned 87 yesterday  
he's healthy  
I shaved him without cutting him

three of his barbers have died already  
several of his brothers  
none of his children  
one of his grandchildren: Isaac (San Diego 1991-†2009)

his compadre died some years ago  
Dr. Moreno (Jalisco 1931-† Tijuana 2013)  
his were the first hands to touch me  
inside my mother's womb  
Sara Pimienta (Jalisco 1933-†Tijuana 1994)

I never learned how to whistle I was the fourth C-section  
I didn't emerge into the world they pulled me out  
I fear I won't leave until they kick me out  
my name is Jorge Omar Ramírez Pimienta (Tijuana 1978)



7.

an agent suspects her  
suspects him suspects me  
suspects himself and above all suspects the baby

his job to suspect  
everything about you is suspicious: your glasses are suspicious  
your books are suspicious  
your car is suspicious  
the cloudy day is suspicious  
the picture on your ID is suspicious  
your last name is suspicious  
your ears are particularly suspicious  
your fingerprints  
above all are very suspicious

she carries a newborn  
he looks at the documents  
there's no picture that's true to a baby

there's no paper that can assure  
that you are yourself 10 days after arriving at the party

there isn't a father or mother who doesn't suspect  
during the first 10 days  
where that baby came from

suspicion is part of the cog  
that turns when the world moves

a suspicious customs officer  
suspects asks her to pull out her breast  
she suspects he suspects her breasts  
asks her to breastfeed  
if the child is hers there will be milk  
if not the suspicion will be certain

she does so  
he asks her to do it again  
during the first attempt the amount of milk  
was suspiciously small

she does it again  
he allows her to cross and the line of suspects moves on.