

CHRISTOPHER MARTINEZ

Running Joke

The *peloteros* kick and dive while

I watch Germany v. Sweden

Foreign blond on blond looks like the gospel of beauty according to White Jesus

Blond on brown kicks like

Go back to your country

Speak English

Forget

the ocean's memory

potato famine

war famine

advertisements of free land in America/
cheap land on San Antonio's Westside

America, glass house brimming with anchors

And I laugh until I weep

Forget

dor, dolor, dolore, douleur, smärta,

schmerz

like surnames begging oceans

to explode into desert.

Cities and people burning

for you to be

Gooooaaaaaaallllll!!!!

And I laugh, and laugh, and laugh, and laugh, and . . .

CHRISTOPHER MARTINEZ is a writer and spoken-word poet from San Antonio, Texas. He earned an MA/MFA degree in Creative Writing, Literature & Social Justice at Our Lady of the Lake University. His work has appeared in *The Huffington Post Latino Voices*, *Pittsburgh Poetry Review*, and *Pilgrimage Press*.

