by: ashley meza-wong

SOUTH

an area i never knew an area a dream i imagined a dream a place

connecting to the land surrounding waves languages unknown to my tongue land of foreigners and ancients resiliency and violence bathed in blood i speak english y castellano little birds whisper in my ear omens

is it you Jaguar? asking how do i know? will the winds sway us? will they be warm? will i remain lost?

EAST

the sun rises days are endless looking at my Jaguar the world in their eyes repeating: it will be okay it will be alright

thinking of the poison you are not what they did to you

riled

tristeza

theoretical dawns i rarely see you it gets dark in here my window is enormous y muy caliente bedazzled by the rays i know i am going to be okay

early mornings are heavy

NORTH

pitch black thoughts of getting lost in them i love the trees without leaves cycling through come back season rebirth every time every single time down there freezing cold snow yearning for the spring

i was born on the mountains in a northern snowstorm blue spruces everywhere wondering what am i doing here?

WEST

budding joy in my heart trespassing abundant flora fiery concrete sunsets

home is whatever you want it to be

my community my emergence into whom i need to be

the best side with trauma, grief, growth alegría amor blossoming butterfly imagining the warmth

SOUTH

concurrent absence neither here nor there ni de aquí ni de allá purposely placed in this realm directionless

i believe i know holding you close en mi corazón with you Jaguar

it all happens when it needs to happen and it is happening now.