**A Word is a Word is a Word**

**y las palabras palabras son**

You say you have only words to give

If words is all you have

 give me words

 Dame palabras

Cut me words fragrant of coffee

of guava, tamarind, and orange blossom

 Sí, que huelan a azahar, a café con leche y a guayaba

Drip me words

 as drops of honeysuckle in Araucan drawl

Palabras perfumadas como madreselvas en flor

que cuelgan de los muros de Coyoacán

Spray me words that flare up my nostrils

with first-kiss awakening

 memory stirring

 whiff of dew-jeweled alfalfa

 en los campos de mi abuelo

in sun-drenched Casas Grandes fields

Cook me words, soul-food words

 spicy of mole and chiles poblanos

 melt-in-your-mouth words of

 silk-smooth sorbete de mango

 and crunchy chicharrón

pig skin and barbecue rib words

 Sauce me jalapeño words

Paint me words sinned-soul black

 palabras oscuras, ciegas como el pecado

midnight indigo words

 palabras de cielo estrellado

Color me syllables

 sunset fiery

 juicy tangerine

 Tulúm sea blue

Brush me with Mexican rose

and jacaranda blue

 Finger paint me with artichoke silver

 Splash me with bougainvillea fuchsia words

 Deslúmbrame con palabras luminosas de Monte Albán

Tickle me with words that see

 with irony twinkling and lashes kissing

 Palabras-sonrisa

 Palabras-caricia

words with throats that gurgle and

bellies that shake

 for nothing

 Because

Under the nightly earth moon

 bathe me in words

 cool fluid lapping words -- skinny-dipping river words

 In the wind in the water in the fire

 serenade me with strings of cricket chirping words

 Canto de chapulín words

In the prairie in the mountains in the valleys

 string me

percussion me

 staccato me

beethoven me

En la noche pelirroja y chisporroteante

 bajo los cirios del cielo

 báñame en palabras de fuego

In the criss-cross of your Indian blood

foam me with sweet smelling

goat milk soap words

 Palabras de espuma

Weave a mantle of words

and cover me

 Cúbreme de palabras Cobíjame Anídame Anáhuacme

 Encircle me with words

 warm firm moist

 Hold me and curl me with words

Drawl me southbreath words

 Las palabras tienen lengua y labios

Petal me with words innocent soft

 with syllables tendrilled

 and butterfly winged

Desátame con palabras

 Tarahumárame

With throat with tongue

 With lips and teeth

 Gerund me

 Mestizo me

 Vermilion me

 Ocean me deep

 With pungent oyster words

 With swarthy mussel words

 Pronounce me

Anoint me

Semen me with words

 Sun words

 Moon words

 Lunasol words

 Palabras tornasoladas

 Man Words Erect

 Tragallama words

Enchílame Encebóllame Cilantréame Berenjéname

 Silabéame y ensalívame

 Emplúmame

 Con voz de serpiente

 Con labios de exilio

 Pronúnciame

 Yergue la palabra