Contents

Looking for The Gulf Motel I

## alle

The Name I Wanted: 7 Betting on America 9 Tía Margarita Johnson's House in Hollywood II Cousin Consuelo, On Piano 12 Taking My Cousin's Photo at the Statue Of Liberty 13 Of Consequence, Inconsequently 14 The Island Within т6 Poem Between Havana and Varadero т8 Habla Cuba Speaking: 20 5:00 AM in Cuba 22 Practice Problem 24 El Florida Room 25 Sitting on My Mother's Porch in Westchester, Florida 27

## allo

Playing House with Pepín 31 Afternoons as Endora 33 Queer Theory: According to My Grandmother 34 Abuelo in a Western 37 The Port Pilot 39 My Brother on Mt. Barker 41 Papá at the Kitchen Table 43 My Father, My Hands 45 Love as if Love 46

Maybe 48 Cheers to Hyakutake 49 Thicker Than Country 51 Killing Mark 52 Love Poem According to Quantum Theory 54

## alles

Birthday Portrait 57 Mamá with Indians: 1973, 2007 59 Venus in Miami Beach 6т Cooking with Mamá in Maine 62 House of the Virgin Mary 64 Mi Rosa y Mi Sal 66 Questioning My Cousin Elena 67 Remembering What Tía Noelia Can't 69 Unspoken Elegy for Tía Cucha 7IBones, Teeth 73 Burning in the Rain 75 Place of Mind 76 Some Days the Sea 77 Since Unfinished 79 Acknowledgments 83