



Border Odyssey: Travels along the U.S./Mexico Divide

Charles D., Jr. Thompson

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"We were trying to change the vision and the conversation about border fears."

Border Odyssey takes us on a drive toward understanding the U.S./Mexico divide: all 1,969 miles—from Boca Chica to Tijuana—pressing on with the useful fiction of a map.

"We needed to go to the place where countless innocent people had been kicked, cussed, spit on, arrested, detained, trafficked, and killed. It would become clear that the border, *la frontera*, was more multifaceted and profound than anything we could have invented about it from afar."

Along the journey, five centuries of cultural history (indigenous, French, Spanish, Mexican, African American, colonist, and U.S.), wars, and legislation unfold. And through observation, conversation, and meditation, *Border Odyssey* scopes the stories of the people and towns on both sides.

"Stories are the opposite of walls: they demand release, retelling, showing, connecting, each image chipping away at boundaries. Walls are full stops. But stories are like commas, always making possible the next clause."

Among the terrain traversed: walls and more walls, unexpected roadblocks and patrol officers; a golf course (you could drive a ball across the border); a Civil War battlefield (you could camp there); the southernmost plantation in the United States; a hand-drawn ferry, a road-runner tracked desert, and a breathtaking national park; barbed wire, bridges, and a trucking-trade thoroughfare; ghosts with guns; obscured, unmarked, and unpaved roads; a Catholic priest and his dogs, artwork, icons, and political cartoons; a sheriff and a chain-smoking mayor; a Tex-Mex eatery empty of customers and a B&B shuttering its doors; murder-laden newspaper headlines at breakfast; the kindness of the border-crossing underground; and too many elderly, impoverished, ex-U.S. farmworkers, *braceros*, lined up to have Thompson take their photograph.

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Why? Because this Border Odyssey: Travels along the U.S./Mexico Divide is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap it but latter it will surprise you with the secret it inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such remarkable way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book have got such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to delay having that book? If I have been you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

Lisa Martin:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love Border Odyssey: Travels along the U.S./Mexico Divide, it is possible to enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

Gloria Engstrom:

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