

Wondrous Abode

Adonai Paz

The University of Texas Medical Branch—John Sealy School of Medicine

Hills gleam in the distance,
Their majestic peaks
Adorn the barren lands.
It's another icy morning
For another clinic day
In rural West Texas.
While we tread for hours to each town,
There is nothing and no one,
But the remote and desolate mountains
Welcome us to the expanse.
Each day patients arrive
Seeking answers to their questions
cures for their ailments,
But most of all,
Curiosity for the strangers
Who've arrived from afar.
Each day we help as we can
Survivors in these isolated lands.
Here, medical care is a rare commodity.
As a medical student,
I fear I cannot help much,
But their "adios" and "gracias"
Express otherwise.
Smiles more often than not,
A product of mere conversations.
I learned so much and plan to return
As a physician one day
To the lands of these survivors.
A wondrous abode
of sepia plains and raging sierras.
Where dawn and dusk are announced
By the blushing sun concealed,
Behind colossal stones.