

JOSÉ LUIS AYALA

PERU (1942–)

LANGUAGE: SPANISH

ARU

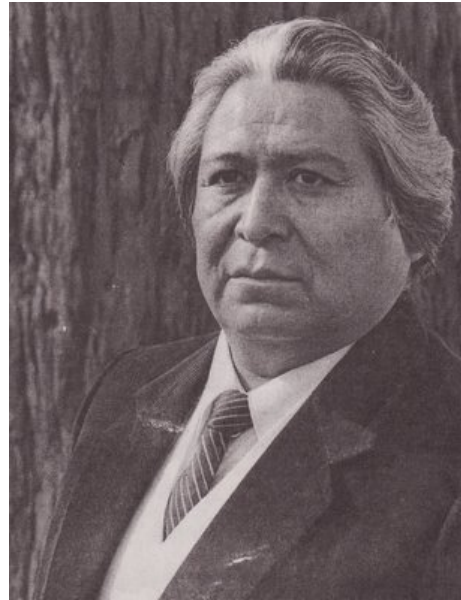
He perdido una palabra
y nunca
volveré a escribirlo

He perdido una dicción
y sé
que no podré hallarla

He perdido una expresión
y nunca
voy a encontrarla

He vuelto a perder un vocablo
y nunca más
lo pronunciaré

He perdido mi nombre
y nunca jamás
jamás sabré cómo me llamaba.



José Luis Ayala was born in Huancané, Peru, in 1942. Ayala is a *yatiri* (healer), writer, poet, essayist, storyteller, and a great promoter of his native Aymara culture. The Aymara are an indigenous nation that has existed for at least eight hundred years in the Andes of modern-day Peru, Bolivia, and Chile. At the end of the fifteenth century, the Incas, under the rule of Huayna Capac, conquered the Aymara nation and made it part of their empire. When the Spanish arrived in the sixteenth century, the Aymara were conquered again. Despite all that, there are still 2.8 million native speakers of Aymara today, and it remains one of the official languages of Bolivia, along with Spanish and Quechua.

TRANSLATOR'S GLOSSARY		
WORD	DEFINITION	POSSIBLE SYNONYMS
a (prep.)	word that proceeds the infinitive form of a verb	to
aru (n.)	the Aymara word for spoken communication	word, language, vocabulary, tongue
cómo (adv.)	in what way or manner	how
dicción (n.)	the choice and use of words; the style of enunciation in speaking	diction, language, wording, vocabulary, articulation, pronunciation, speech
encontrarla (v. + pron.)	to recognize or discover something	to find it, to encounter it, to locate it, to learn it, to discover it
escribirlo (v. + pron.)	to put words down on a page	to write it, to mark it, to inscribe it, to engrave it, to write it down
expresión (n.)	a word or phrase used to convey an idea	expression, phrase, idiom, saying
hallarla (v. + pron.)	to recognize or discover something	to find it, to encounter it, to locate it, to learn it, to discover it
he perdido (v.)	from the verb <i>perder</i> —to be deprived of or unable to find	I have lost, I have misplaced, I have lost track of, I have left behind, I have been deprived of
he vuelto (v.)	from the verb <i>volver</i> —to come or go back	I have returned, I have gone back, I have again, I have once more
jamás (adv.)	at no time in the past or future; on no occasion	never, at no time, not ever
lo (pron.)	used as the subject of a verb	it
me llamaba (v.)	from the verb <i>llamar</i> —to call or refer to	I was called, I was named, I called myself, I referred to myself
mi (adj.)	relating to or belonging to me	my
no (adv.)	used as a function word to make negative a word or group of words	no, not
nombre (n.)	a word or set of words by which somebody or something is known	name

WORD	DEFINITION	POSSIBLE SYNONYMS
nunca (adv.)	at no time in the past or future; on no occasion	never, at no time, not ever
nunca más (adv.)	at no time ever again	never again, not anymore, nevermore
palabra (n.)	a single distinct meaningful unit of language	word, term
perder (v.)	to be deprived of or unable to find	to lose, to misplace, to lose track of, to leave behind, to be deprived of
podré (v.)	from the verb <i>poder</i> —to be able to	I will be able to, I can, I may
pronunciaré (v.)	from the verb <i>pronunciar</i> —to utter sounds or words	I will pronounce, I will utter, I will articulate, I will voice, I will vocalize
que (conj.)	used as a function word to introduce a new clause	that
sabré (v.)	from the verb <i>saber</i> —to realize or comprehend something	I will know, I will realize, I will learn, I will be aware, I will recognize, I will perceive
sé (v.)	from the verb <i>saber</i> —to realize or comprehend something	I know, I realize, I learn, I am aware, I recognize, I perceive
un/una (indef. art.)	used before a singular noun	a, an
vocablo (n.)	a single distinct meaningful unit of language	word, term
volveré (v.)	from the verb <i>volver</i> —to come or go back	I will return, I will go back, I will go again, I will go once more
voy (v.)	from the verb <i>ir</i> —to go	I go, I am going
y (conj.)	used to join words	and

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

PHRASE BY PHRASE

ARU _____

He perdido una palabra _____

y nunca _____

volveré a escribirlo _____

He perdido una dicción _____

y sé _____

que no podré hallarla _____

He perdido una expresión _____

y nunca _____

voy a encontrarla _____

He vuelto a perder un vocablo _____

y nunca más _____

lo pronunciaré _____

He perdido mi nombre _____

y nunca jamás _____

jamás sabré cómo me llamaba. _____

REFLECTING AND FINDING MEANING

Group Member Names:

Date: _____

Pick a scribe for the group, and work together to answer the questions.

What are the best parts of this translation, and why do you think they are good?

What elements of the original poem did you lose in the translation? What did you manage to keep?

Did you achieve something new with your translation, and if so, does it make sense in the poem or not?
