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Our Lady

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by José Angel Araguz

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To hear my aunt tell it:
a flash of lightning struck
and stuck firm on the highway,
somewhere between Matamoros
and Corpus Christi, and before
she could know to stop,
she drove past Our Lady
of Guadalupe as she
would've any hitchhiker,
signpost, or mesquite.
This is the gist of it.
What I never get right
when I set myself down
to fix the lightning
by which she saw what
she'd never call a vision,
is how she speaks of it
as if it were a robbery,
with the suspicious
and lamentful tone
of one convinced
something is missing
from her life.