South Sun Rises is a poetic narrative of a pursuit of the American dream on one of the world’s most compelling and dangerous international borders, El Paso/Juarez.

Leaving behind her life in Juarez, Sandoval’s mother’s finds herself isolated and alone in the gritty projects of El Paso.

Most days, the hardship of working hard hours while being both the mother and father to four children, she’d find herself fending off the dangers of the projects, with it’s predators, drug dealers, and junkies. She was resilient enough to search for the best setting for her to raise her children. Through tremendous persistence and effort, she managed to become a US citizen in the midst of raising her children on her own.

The landscape is covered by a cloud of an almost Darwinian struggle for survival flourishing around a bicultural borderland from which emanates a unique song and dance unlike any in the US.

The book adopts poetics as a form of familial understanding, a surreal kind of folklore in order for the writer to understand the life cycle in which he finds himself.

Valentin Sandoval was born El Paso, Texas, and was the first of his family to be born a US citizen. Valentin works as a multimedia and film producer.

South Sun Rises

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