

save your death | Angelina Leaños

let this year close not with your casket
but with sueños del Año Nuevo — dream not of heaven yet.

when Death visits you in el hospital, tell them to wait in the lobby
where I will be because no one believes I am yours.

prove the doctors wrong and call my name —
coat your voice in sugar for this spell I'll cast to bring you home.

when you return with me, embrace mi bisabuela —
fill a well with all the tears she spilled in your absence.

parade the streets scented by barbacoa y carne asada
shine in your survival, God's answer to our prayers.

*no se llore por lo que perdió pero celebra con el valle —
ahorra celebramos, let's dance your breath entre la tierra*

and when you look longingly to the heavens I'll say
ahora no es su tiempo — save your death for another day.