CONTENTS

Acknowledgments xi

Introduction to the Poems xiii

Martin Espada

I. A LESSON IN MASCULINITY

Film Strip 3

The Performer 4

Pulling Tongue 5

The Physics of Crime 6

Edwin Sucks Dick 7

Officer Friendly 8

The Peanut Butter & Jelly Narratives 9

Flirting 10

A Lesson in Masculinity 11

Blow by Blow 12

With the Eyes Alone 13

© 2009 University of Notre Dame Press
II. CITY OF BROKEN

Clamor 17
Want 18
How to Hear Chicago 19
Recoil 20
Police Dog 21
The Debris It Carries 22
Men Watching Men 23
Bones 24
Garbage Truck 25
Hit & Run 26
Elegy for Winter 27
Sieve 28

III. THE WAR ON POETS GOES ON

Retablos: 10 Deleted Tongues 31
The War on Poets Goes On 33
Sucker MC 35

On the Significance of Che, Dead in the Laundry House of the Vallegrande Hospital, Nuestro Señor de Malta 36
The Body as Weapon, as Inspiration  37
  Amputee Etcetera  38
The Abuelita Poem  40
Poetry Reading at the Café Tamale  42
  Exclamation Point  43
  Commercial Break  44

IV. WHILE LATE CAPITALISM
  Shower Stall Baller  49
  Erectile Miss  50
  Male Pattern  51
  Drink Bovicola  52
Banana Republic Politick  53
  Identity Politick  54
  Political Plasma  55
  Manifesto  56
While Late Capitalism  58
  Hunger Strike  59
  Mykilladoreher  60

Notes  65

ix

© 2009 University of Notre Dame Press