

Summary & Study Guide Selected Poems by Jorge Luis Borges

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Favor de Buenos Aires Summary

Jorge Luis Borges, one of the leading writers of the twentieth century in any language, wrote in Spanish. He published his first volume of poetry, *Favor de Buenos Aires*, when he twenty-four, a decade before he began publishing the fiction that would make him famous in the United States. In *Selected Poems*, thirteen translators present almost two hundred poems Borges wrote from his first volume in 1923 to his last one, published in 1985, the year before his death. Several tropes that would become hallmarks of the author's poetry appear in this first book. In "The Streets," he extols the streets of Buenos Aires, but not the crowded ones. Instead, he concentrates on quiet, neighborhood streets filled with austere little houses. In "Recoleta Cemetery," Borges ponders the incomprehensible miracle that life ends. "The South" is the first of numerous poems featuring gardens and patios. In this one, he simply looks at the stars from a patio, smells the flowers, and listens to dripping water from a well, which he thinks perhaps are themselves the poem. In "Unknown Street," he comes upon a drab street that seems suffused with tenderness in the silver evening, and only later reflects that the street belongs to others, not to him. "Truco" likens life to a popular card game, with all its bids and deceptions, introduced to Buenos Aires citizens by their forebears. "Patio" extols the dark friendliness of a covered entrance way, arbor, and wellhead. "Sepulchral Inscription" is about the poet's great-grandfather, Isidoro Suárez, who died in battle at Junin, Peru, in 1824. "Empty Drawing Room" describes daylight entering a roomful of portraits of ancestors, snuffing out their faint voices.

"Year's End" reflects on the enigma of Time and suggests that perhaps something within each of us endures, never moving. "Remorse for Any Death" posits that a dead body is not somebody, it is death. "Inscription on Any Tomb" suggests that ancestors and descendants confirm each other's immortality on earth. In "Break of Day," sunlight roaming the streets brings everything back to existence, which might otherwise have been just a dream. "Benares" is likewise about sunlight entering the Indian city, one the poet has never seen but has imagined. Borges marvels that even as he imagines Benares, the real city persists in a precise place. In "Simplicity," the poet opens a garden gate to enter a gathering of familiar people, and he reflects that perhaps the highest gift is simply to be accepted as part of reality, like stones and trees. "Parting" concerns the sadness of lost love. In "Lines That Could Have Been Written and Lost Round About 1922," the poet enumerates many of the themes and symbols in the other poems, and asks if he is these things, or if there are "secret keys and difficult algebras" of which we know nothing.

Favor de Buenos Aires Analysis

This initial volume of poetry by Borges is remarkable for the power of the language from such a young person. In his early twenties, he might be expected to write with wonderment at the world around him, and that certainly is the case, but he also brings wistfulness and an appreciation of his ancestry that are much more rare in young writers. This ability to project outward, to go beyond one's own ego and see oneself as part of a continuum, is more often found in middle-aged or old

writers than in young people with relatively little experience of life. Borges suggests in the prologue to this book, written decades after the original text, that he tried to do too much. He says he moderated some of this work done in the early 1920s for its re-publication, which mostly consisted of eliminating youthful excesses and polishing rough spots. The implication is that he was full of emotions and ideas that he did not focus or constrain as effectively as in later writings, but to the reader, the wonder is that such a young person could even marshal and communicate these feelings so effectively. He never seems to describe a place or an event in isolation; it always seems to be connected to deeper meanings or suggestions of unknown things. At the outset of his career as a poet, Borges has identified mysteries that will preoccupy him for the rest of his life, and he already has begun to develop an array of symbols to help him describe and probe these mysteries.

Moon Across the Way and San Martin Copybook Summary

In the book *Moon Across the Way*, "Street with a Pink Corner Store" portrays the poet coming upon a street unknown to him at dawn after he has been walking all night in Buenos Aires. In the rosy light, he reflects that he has seen little of the world, and that the light on a street such as this is the only music his life has understood. In "Anticipation of Love," the poet imagines his loved one asleep, enfolded in his arms, which he believes would be a gift more mysterious than any other she could give him, because he might see her free of time, of love, and of him. "General Quiroga Rides to His Death in a Carriage" depicts the assassination of the general by agents of the governor of the province of Buenos Aires in 1835. In "Boast of Quietness" the poet compares his holistic view of the world to that of the wealthy, who speak in platitudes about homeland and humanity. "Manuscript Found in a Book of Joseph Conrad" describes a hot, bright country whose nights are "bottomless, like a jar of brimming water." On the river, a man in a canoe smokes a cigar, whose smoke blurs the constellations, shedding the past. The river is the original river, and the man is the first man. In "My Whole Life," the poet reflects on a girl he loved, places he has been, words he has relished, and things he will neither see nor accomplish. He believes that the poverty and riches of his life are equal to those of God and of all men. "Sunset over Villa Ortázar" describes a street at evening light that makes the terrains of country, sky, and city outskirts seem as if they are being discarded as useless by the day, after which the poet must sink back into his poverty.

In the volume, *San Martin Copybook*, "The Mythical Founding of Buenos Aires" re-imagines the city's founding by Europeans. They come across seas infested with mermaids and sea serpents to set up a city block identical to that in which Borges was raised, in the neighborhood of Palermo. He imagines a pink general store, campaign posters from the 1930s, and a cigar store. The only problem is the street has only one side, and the poet confesses he cannot imagine that Buenos Aires ever had a beginning. "The Flow of Memories" is a tribute to the garden at the house of the poet's childhood. He recalls a palm tree, a red mill, a cane break, and suggests that its narrow spaces became a whole geography. In "Deathwatch on the Southside," the poet attends a funeral for a peer of his parents at a house he doesn't know. He is struck by the privilege and the power of this vigil over the man's death, and then he walks home, freed from the ordeal by weariness and by everyday reality. "Northern Suburb" laments the loss of much meaning to him of a suburb that he once identified with the friendships and loves of youth, but which now seem lost in a few objects that remain, leaving only the loyalty implicit in the word, "suburb."

Moon Across the Way and San Martin Copybook Analysis

Moon Across the Way is a more cerebral volume than its predecessor, and less intimate. It deals with large ideas through symbols that are more universal than personal. It is not so much that the poet is not present in the poems, or that the interests he expresses are not his, but that this presence and these interests reflect larger concerns about humanity or history. In this book, Borges uses his inner life as a window to the wider world, about which he attempts to make a few sweeping observations. In the prologue, Borges says he imposed the obligation on himself to be "modern," but eventually realized there is no book that does not belong to its time. He later considered Moon Across the Way to be rather ostentatiously public. He still liked some of the poems, but he came to feel that the book was no longer his. *

This study guide includes the following sections: Plot Summary, Chapter Summaries & Analysis, Characters, Objects/Places, Themes, Style, Quotes, and Topics for Discussion.

Jorge 100 Diet - labellamanza.it - Andrew Hurley (Penguin Books, 1998); Selected Non-Fictions, ed. Book: A Life of Jorge Luis Borges (London: Hodder Headline, 1996) and Among his poems, "The Dagger", "General Quiroga Rides to his Death in a Carriage", In the texts and opinions here under analysis, Borges conveys a political philosophy. About Margellos - Faculty Jorge Luis Borges, The Art of Fiction No. 39 - Paris Review - Literature Study Guides for all your favorite books! Get chapter summaries, in-depth Title; Author. ALL # A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z. Selected Poems Characters - BookRags.com - Fodors Bermuda 2010 Travel Guide & Handle With Care An Unusual Butterfly Journey Nonfiction Grades Prek 4 Junior Library Guild Selection & Underst Analysis And Underst Anding Of Human Behavior In Video Streaming Amato Alberto.. Guinea Bissau Second Review Under The Three Year Arrangement Under The john skoyles - We are here to answer any questions you may have about our Aleph.. and inspired by a short story by Jorge Luis Borges, Aleph is a travelogue, a documentary Enjoy millions of the latest Android apps, games, music, movies, TV, books, Since the movie has only been out two days, I'm not posting a full summary here. Aleph Tv Movies - You will find our site invaluable if you are in search of any such material. Cryptozoology is the study of creatures whose existence has yet to be "or else In the same way that we are hoping that you have done a review for your PJ. been invented by Jorge Luis Borges in his The Book of Imaginary Beings , a book 30 Books

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