San Antonio Review

Lines

Susan Niz

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"Untitled," 35mm film photograph, [Wimpy AF](#)

A Texas summer day

Borders

Like water/rock

Tree/sky

Rope swing/air

Road/sidewalk

Water/air to breathe

My brown-skinned daughters

Swim, play, float, dive, cling

A Texas summer day

Borders

Like current/shore

Clay/solid ground

War/peace

Fear/full bellies

Cold/blankets

Journey/cage

Tyranny/freedom

Brown-skinned daughters

Enter the river

And leave the Earth
Enter the desert

And leave the Earth
And dive and play
In limestone pools
Between earth and sky

[Susan Niz](#)'s second chapbook, [Left-Handed Like a Lightning Whelk](#), is forthcoming with Finishing Line Press (November 2019). Her novel *Kara, Lost* (North Star Press, 2011) was a finalist for a Midwest Book Award for Literary Fiction. She has a Master's Degree in Education, raises kids, has been a grassroots community organizer and conserves Monarchs. She recently relocated from Minnesota to the Austin area.

[Wimpy AF](#) is a Brooklyn-based archivist who moonlights as a poet and painter. The AF is for Afrofuturist.