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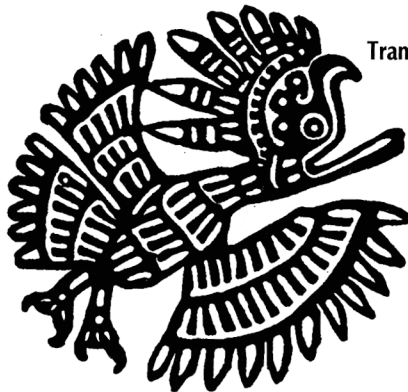
Los ovnis de oro: Poemas indios

Ernesto Cardenal

Translated by Carlos and Monique Altschul

Edited with an Introduction and

Glossary by Russell O. Salmon



In 1898 Tahirassawichi went to Washington
"only to speak about religion"
(as he told the American government)
only to preserve the prayers.
And the Capitol did not impress him.
The Library of Congress was all right
but not fit to keep the sacred objects
which could only be kept in his mud hut
(which was crumbling).
—from "Tahirassawichi in Washington"

Ernesto Cardenal, Nicaraguan poet, priest, and revolutionary, foresees a new order for humanity. Here in his Indian poems, Father Cardenal interweaves myth, legend, history, and contemporary reality to speak to many subjects, including the assaults on the Iroquois Nation, the political and cultural life of ancient Mexico, the Ghost Dance movement, the disappearance of the buffalo, U.S. policy during the Vietnam War, and human rights in Central America. Each text is rich with history, poetry, and spiritual insight.

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