

# A Translation of Spanish Passages in *The Crossing*

by Lt. Jim Campbell

## PART ONE

**Page 22**

vega (meadow)

**Page 33**

compadrito (little friend)

mochila (pack)

**Page 39**

rincon (corner)

**Page 41**

Buenas tardes (Good day)

El señor esta? (Is the gentleman in?)

Bueno. Pasale. (OK. Go in [or Pass]).

**Page 42**

Atras (In back)

Adelante (Come in; lit: forward)

Guero (Fair-haired boy; Blond)

**Page 43**

almohada (pillow)

Por nada (You're welcome; lit: for nothing)

Sientate (Sit down)

Te conozco? (Do I know you?)

Estamos a las Charcas (We're from Charcas)

Hay una historia alla (There's a history there)

desgraciada (disgraceful)

De obras desalmadas (Of soulless works)

**Page 44**

Donde esta - (Where is he?)

No se. Se fue. (I don't know. He left.)

El murio? (He died?)

Conocemos por lo... (We know from the length of the shadows how late in the day it is.)

Matriz (matrix)

**Page 45**

Ella vino de Mexico (She came from Mexico)

El señor Sanders... (Mr Sanders tells me that Mr Echols is half wolf himself. He tells me that he knows what the wolf knows before the wolf knows it.)

El lobo is una cosa... (The wolf is an unknowable thing, that which one has in the trap is no more than teeth and fur. One cannot know the true wolf. Wolf or what the wolf knows. It's like asking what the stones know. The trees. The world.)

Es cazador... (It's a hunter, the wolf. A hunter. You understand me?)

**Page 46**

dechado (design)

Escuchame joven (Listen to me young one)

candela (candle)

Andale (scat, git; lit: walk)

**Page 47**

Vaya con Dios (Go with God)  
Y tu (And you)  
Cuantos años tienes (How old are you?)  
Dieciseis (Sixteen)  
Yo no se nada... (I don't know anything. This is the truth.)  
Esta bien (It's OK)  
Y que clase... ( And what type of place is this? - Places where the iron is already in the earth.  
Places where the fire has burned. - And how does one find them?)  
Y por eso soy... (And for this I'm a heretic. For this and nothing more.)

**Page 48**

Brujo (witch)  
Satanas (Satan)  
orgullo (pride)  
No hay parentesco (there is no relationship)  
tio (uncle)  
La fe... (The faith. Faith is everything.)

**Page 50**

Cuidado, hay una... (Be careful. There is a wolf trap buried in the fire.)  
70  
Puede detenerla? (Can you hold her?)  
Necesitas mas luz? (Do you need more light?)  
Estas listo (are you ready?)  
Otra vez (again)

**Page 75**

Adonde va? (where are you going?)  
A las montañas (To the mountains)  
Es cazador usted? (Are you a hunter?)  
Bueno (good)  
Es buena cazadora su perra? (Is your dog a good hunter?)  
Mejor no hay (There's none better)  
A veces (Sometimes)  
Es feroz? (Is she ferocious?)  
Hasta luego (See you later)

**Page 85**

Bastante (Quite)  
Es una loba (she's a wolf)  
Como? (What?)  
De veras (Really)  
Que paso con la pata? (What happened to its paw?)  
arrieros - (mulepackers)  
Va a parir (It's going to give birth)  
Es su hija? (Is she your daughter?)  
Si, claro (Yes, of course)  
Como la jovencita (Like the young girl)  
Los sacerdotes... (The priests are thieves)  
Una revolucionaria... (A revolutionary, soldier. Those who can't remember the blood of the war  
are always the most ardent for the struggle.)  
Una maldición... (A curse, it's certain.)  
Sabemos... (We know what we know.)  
Lo que es nada (That which is nothing.)  
De acuerdo (Agreed)  
Debe quitar el bosal (You should take off the muzzle)  
verdad (truth)  
Es tan feroz la perra? (It's that ferocious, the dog?)

**Page 90**

Que tienes alla, joven? (What do you have there, young one?)  
Cuanto quieres por tu lobo? (How much do you want for your wolf?)  
No puedo venderlo (I can't sell it)  
No es mia (She's not mine)  
Por que no? (Why not?)  
De quien es (Whose is it?)  
Y este hacendado... (And this rancher, does he live in the Morales estate?)

**Page 91**

Suerte, muchacho (Good luck, boy)  
huarache (sandal [made of car tires])

**Page 95**

De donde viene? (Where do you come from?)  
Sus documentos (your papers)  
No tengo... (I don't have any documents)  
Es su caballo (Is that your horse?)  
factura (bill of sale, receipt, papers)  
papeles (papers)

**Page 97**

padre (father)  
No es ladrón usted? Asesino? (You're not a thief? An assassin?)  
mozo (servant)  
alguacil (baillif, constable)

**Page 101**

A la feria (to the fair, carnival)  
pueblo (village)  
Es lejos? (Is it far?)  
Unas pocas leguas (A few leagues)  
Y adonde va con la loba (And where are they going with the wolf?)  
Sin duda (without doubt)  
sierras (mountain ranges)  
caballero (horseman [gentleman])

**Page 105**

El viene (He's coming)  
Maldiciones (curses)

**Page 107**

Hacienda (ranch)  
carretero (wagoneer)  
cocinera (cook)

**Page 110**

No puedo aceptarlo (I can't accept it)  
Nadie sabe para quien trabaja (No one knows for whom he works)

**Page 113**

hidalgo de gotera (lesser noble [slang])  
gerente (manager)  
caporal (hired hand)  
mayordomo (steward, butler)  
bodega (brewery)  
ejido (cooperative farm)

**Page 115**

Cuantos perros tienen? (How many dogs do you have?)  
Quien sabe? (Who knows?)

**Page 116**

arbitro (referee)

**Page 118**

Que quieres, joven? (What do you want, young one?)

Para que traje... (Why have you brought the wolf here? For what purpose?)

**Page 119**

Queríamos pasar, no mas (We wanted to pass through, no more.)

Pasar o trespassar? (Pass or trespass?)

portazgo (toll)

**Page 120**

Agarrala (Take hold of her.)

Ponga la cadena (put the chain on)

**Page 123**

Bastante. No le molesta. (Enough. Leave him alone.)

cuero (hide )

Acepta la carabina? (Will you take the rifle [carbine]?)

Es ('En' is typo) un huinche? (Is it a Winchester? [slang])

Cuarenta y cuatro. (Forty-four [caliber])

**Page 125**

corrido (ballad, folk song)

**PART TWO**

**Page 131**

que lindo (how pretty)  
Lo conoce? (Do you know it?)  
Es minero? (Are you a miner?)

**Page 132**

Es su marido? (Your husband?)

**Page 134**

Eres huérfano (You are an orphan)

**Page 138**

Eres puros huesos. (You're pure bones.)  
Tengo miedo es verdad. (I'm afraid it's true.)

**Page 142**

vigas (rafters)

**Page 145**

terremoto (earthquake)  
alameda (avenue)

**Page 150**

golondrina (swallow)

**Page 153**

colindancia (territory, neighborhood)

**Page 159**

Vaya con Dios (Go with God)

**Page 160**

zaguan (vestibule, hallway)

**Page 183**

Estaba su caballo... (Was that your horse in front of the house?)

**Page 184**

fantasma... (fantasy, ghost. Fantasy? Yes, of course. Why? Because the old man is crazy is why.)

**Page 185**

Un dibujo... (A drawing of a journey. A past journey. An ancient journey.)  
tertulia (gathering, get-together)

**Page 187**

Donde esta... (Where's the horseman? - There's no other horseman besides us.)  
ciénega (marsh)

**Page 195**

ganadero (livestock dealer)

**Page 196**

muy amable (very friendly)

**Page 197**

Busco... (I'm looking for Mr. Soto. He's not here. - When will he return? - Everyone wants to know.)

**Page 201**

bayo lobo (wolf bay)  
yegua (mare)  
capones (geldings)  
potros (colts)  
monte (wilderness; usual: mountains)

**Page 208**

Hemos perdido... (We've lost a horse. We're looking for it.)  
Nuestro caballo... (Our horse is very distinctive. We would know it in any light.)  
Que quieren, pues. (Then, what do you want?)  
Quien mas? (Who else?)  
diecisiete (seventeen)  
Que opina (What do you think?)  
Doce quizas (Twelve perhaps)

**Page 210**

Esta enfermo (He's sick)  
demonios (demons)

**Page 212**

Mande (What?)

**PART THREE**

**Page 215**

Que clase de (What kind of place is this?)  
gente (people)  
No lo se (I don't know)

**Page 216**

domicilio (room, domicile)  
afuera (outside)

**Page 222**

Aiguien le busca (Someone is looking for you)  
No se puede quedar aqui? (You can't stay here?)

**Page 225**

Los hombres han... (The men have gone to Madero?)  
Basta la musica (Stop the music)

**Page 227**

Quien lo dice? (Who says so?)  
Mentira (lie)

**Page 229**

Diganos, Gaspar. Por que... (Tell us, Gaspar. Why does Punchinello kill me? He kills you because he knows your secret. - It's not because I know his? - No - Despite what the people think? - Despite anything. -And what is this secret? -The secret is that in this world the mask is that which is true.)

**Page 230**

Podria ser un viaje largo. (It will probably be a long voyage.)  
Quizas (Perhaps)

**Page 235**

Le gustan (You like them)

**Page 236**

lejos (far)

**Page 239**

Que tiene de comer? (What do you have to eat? - We have goat - What else?)

**Page 244**

Somos propietarios... (We're the owners of these horses.)  
Adonde se fue... (Where did your friend go?)

**Page 260**

Firmado por quien (Signed by whom?)  
Permitame (Permit me)  
No toque (Don't touch)

**Page 262**

Es inutil... (It's useless, he's broken his back)

**Page 267**

Cabron (Male goat, but also a very strong curse, similar to 'cuckold')

**Page 272**

Tomelo (Take him)  
No te preocupes (Don't worry)  
Es mi hermano (He's my brother)

**Page 275**

Que novedades tiene (What news do you have?)

**Page 277**

Hace veintiocho anos... (It's been 28 years, and much has changed. And despite that everything is the same.)

**Page 278**

ciego (blind/blind one)

**Page 280**

Ustedes no saben... (You don't know me at all.)  
pollo (chicken)  
ordenes (orders)

**Page 281**

izquierda (left)  
No me molesta (Don't bother me)  
ropa (clothes)

**Page 282**

Con permiso (with your permission)  
A tres metros... (Three meters away. Hurry, it's leaving.)  
Por supuesto (Of course)  
Toca... (Touch. Touch. If the world is an illusion, the loss of the world is also an illusion.)

**Page 283**

Es una cara... (It's a face. So what?)

**Page 284**

norte/sur (north/south)  
Hay luz... (There's light in the world, blind man. Like it was before, so it is now.)  
despierto (awake)  
Continuas... (Continue. - Well, as in all stories there are three travelers with whom we meet on the road. Already we have seen the woman and the man. Can you ascertain who is the third? - A child? - A child. Exactly - But is this a true story?)

**Page 285**

Es heroe, este ciego? (Is he a hero, this blind man?)

**Page 286**

Era (he was)  
Otro (another)  
carreta (wagon)  
sepulturero (undertaker)

**Page 289**

guapo (handsome, gorgeous)

**Page 290**

Era la muchacha (You were the girl)  
Es una carantona, no? (It's an ugly face [mug]), isn't it? - No. And besides, didn't you tell me that appearances are misleading? - For me, yes.)  
Entienda que ya existe... (Understand that that ogre still exists. That sucker of eyes. He and others like him. They have not disappeared from the world. And they never will.)

**Page 291**

Y sus sueños... (And your dreams, have they faded?)  
No puedo recordar... (I can't remember the world of light. For many years now. This world is a fragile world. What I have seen lately was stronger, truer.)  
Enmisprimeros... (In my first years of darkness I thought that blindness was a form of death. I was wrong. To lose your vision is like a dream of falling. You think that there is no bottom to the abyss. You fall and fall. The light recedes. The memory of the light. The memory of the world. Of your own face. Of one's ugly face.)

**Page 292**

En este viaje... (On this voyage the visible world is no more than a distraction. For those that are blind and for all men. Finally we know that we can't see the good God. We go listening. Do you understand me, young one? We should listen.)  
Y las palabras.. (And the words of the undertaker concerning justice? What do you think of them?)

**Page 293**

Quizas hay poca de justicia... (Perhaps there is little justice in this world)  
Somos dolientes... (We are mourners in the darkness. All of us. Do you understand me? Those who can see, those who cannot ... What we should understand, is that finally everything is dust.)

All we can touch. All we can see. In this we have evidence more profound than justice, than mercy. In this we see the greatest blessing of God.)

**Page 297**

dispensame (excuse me)

**Page 298**

Que tiene (what do you have?)

Busca el herido (You're looking for the wounded one.)

Tomelo (Take it.)

Milagro (miracle [a small religious gift, representing a prayer/supplication])

No era herido... (He wasn't wounded in the heart)

**Page 299**

Regalos de los obreros (Gifts from the workers)

**Page 300**

Y que dice la bruja? Es grave? (And what does the witch [healer] say? Is it mortal?)

**Page 301**

Donde esta... (Where is your brother? - In the San Diego settlement. And when did this accident occur? - Two days ago)

**Page 302**

Listo? (Ready?)

**Page 303**

Como te sientes? (How do you feel?)

**Page 304**

Hiervame algo de agua. (Bring me some water Veame - Look at me)

Tienes muchos amigos (You have a lot of friends)

**Page 305**

Por la boca (Through your mouth)

Ahora si quieres (Now if you want)

Nunca mejor. (Never better.)

Respire profundo (Breathe deeply)

Tantos regalos (So many gifts)

Cuando puedo yo hablar? (When can I talk?)

**Page 306**

Hay una mesa... (Is there a small table in the house? Or a chair? There is a chair. Good. Bring it. And bring me a container of water. A bottle or whatever you've got. And bring a glass of potable water the door open. We need air.)

No te preocupes (Don't worry)

**Page 307**

El tenia sed, verdad? (He was thirsty, wasn't he?)

Ayudame (Help me)

**Page 308**

Esta bien asi (It's good just so.)

La entrada... (The entry is in the chest, right?)

No estas demasiado (You're not too cold? Are you comfortable?)

**Page 309**

Un poquito mas (A little more)

Ponga el resto... (Put the rest in the water)

Quita la cataplasma (Remove the poultice)

**Page 310**

No se si me va permitir (I don't know if he'll let me)

El te permite (He'll let you)

**Page 311**

Que dice (What's he saying?)

Unos pocos minutos mas (A few more minutes)

Pobrecito (Poor little thing)

**Page 312**

plomo (lead)  
Te duele (Does it hurt ?)  
Le interesa el perro (The dog is interested)  
No lo molesta... (Don't bother it. It's your brother's, right?)  
Es un muchacho muy valiente (He's a very brave boy.)  
Es grave?... (Is it grave? It's grave, but not very grave. What would be very grave? This. This is very grave.)  
Alla (there)

**Page 313**

Fue muy afortunado... (He was very fortunate. - How's that? - That he hasn't punctured his lungs. That he hasn't ruptured the aorta which was very close to the bullet's path. But above all that there is no gangrene. Very fortunate.)

**Page 314**

Se queda con su hermano. (Stay with your brother - Yes. Please accept the horse.)  
Ya es la mañana... (It's already morning. The dawn is coming.)

**Page 315**

Por que no montaba el caballo (Why didn't you ride the horse?)  
Quiere montario? (Do you want to ride him?)

**Page 316**

Claro que si (Of course)  
Dos veces (twice)

**Page 317**

Es peligroso... (It's dangerous for you)  
Mi hermano... (My brother is a man of the people?)  
Herida tan grave, horrible, fea (Wound so grave, horrible, ugly.)  
valiente (brave, valiant)  
Y peligroso... (And dangerous because of all of this. Like a wounded tiger in his cave.)

**Page 318**

manco (one-armed man)  
Quince anos... (Fifteen years. How handsome. How strong for so young.)  
Hay justicia... (There is justice in the world.)

**Page 320**

Esta muerto? (Is he dead?)  
No me mienta (Don't lie to me)  
Le juro por Dios (I swear to God)  
Tienes hambre? (Are you hungry?)

**Page 321**

Tienes miedo de los hombres (You're afraid of men)  
Cuales hombres? (Which men?)  
Todos los hombres (All of them)  
escarabajo (beetle)  
Y quizas tienes razon (And perhaps you're right)

**Page 322**

Guardia Blanca ("White Guard")

**Page 323**

algo mas (anything else)  
No sabes nada de mi hermano (You don't know anything about my brother)  
Por que no me contesta? (Why don't you answer me?)  
Sabias que el tenia una gemela?... (Did you know that he had a twin sister, who died when she was five?)

**Page 327**

No me recuerdas (You don't remember me)  
Le conozco. Como le va... (I know you. How's it going? OK. Where's your brother? Where's the caravan? - He's (already) in San Diego)  
Como no? (Why not?)  
Se fue (They left)  
Con el dinero (With the money)  
Claro (Of course)

**Page 328**

Las gruilas llegan (The cranes arrive)  
Donde estabas? (Where were you?)

**Page 332**

Nadie sabe lo que espera en este mundo. (No one knows what awaits him in this world.)  
De veras (The truth)

**PART FOUR**

**Page 342**

Yo tam bien (Me too)  
regresa a Mexico? (Are you going back to Mexico?)  
Venga, sientate con nosotros (Come on, sit with us)

**Page 358**

muy serio (very serious)

**Page 359**

Por que viene aqui? (Why did you come here?)

**Page 360**

No le gusta el whiskey? (You don't like whiskey?)  
Es el sello (It's the seal [stamp])

**Page 362**

Era demasiado fuerte para el (It was too strong for him)

**Page 363**

Me llama embustero? (Are you calling me a liar?)

**Page 365**

caidas (fallen [buildings])

**Page 366**

Ya corn i (I already ate)  
Es muy amable (You're very kind)

**Page 367**

Son suyos? (Are they yours?)  
Ninos no tengo (I don't have children)  
para el camino (for the road)

**Page 368**

Hay ladrones aqui (There are thieves here)  
Donde pues? (Where then)

**Page 353**

Esta bien. No tiene que apagarlo. (It's OK. You don't have to turn it off.)

**Page 354**

Es pariente del Senor Sanders?... (Are you kin of Mr. Sanders? - No. He was a friend of my father)  
Sientate. Puede sentarse. (Sit down. You can sit down)  
Su salud no es buena (His health is not good)  
Conocio a su sobrino? (Did you know his nephew?)  
Tiene que hacer un viaje largo? (Do you have a long journey?)

**Page 355**

aduanero (customs officer)

**Page 356**

abierto (open)  
Deme (Give me)  
Tome algo para usted (Have something for yourself)

**Page 357**

Y sus amigos tambien (And your friends too)  
Tomamos mescal (We're drinking mescal)  
Otra vez (Another [time])  
soldado (soldier)  
En este pais (In this country)  
ningun (any)  
Toma un paseo (Take a ride)  
sabroso (tasty)  
nietos tampoco (nor grandchildren)  
Deme su mano (Give me your hand)  
En mi palma? (In my palma?)  
En este pueblo (In this village)  
en todos lados (on all sides)  
Dios mio, que hombre. (My goodness, what a man!)  
Que ve (What do you see?)  
El mundo segun usted. (The world according to you)  
Es gitana? (Are you a gypsy?)  
Que vio (What did you see?)  
No vi nada (I saw nothing)

**Page 369**

Con mucha tristeza (With much sorrow)  
Pero usted ha visto... (But you've seen something bad. What is it?)  
Que novedades tiene de mi hermano? (What news do you have of my brother?)  
Cual (Which)  
Tiene dos (You have two)  
tras (upon)  
Hermano (brother [emphasis on masculine])  
Cual es cual? (Which is which?)  
Ni yo tampoco (Me neither)

**Page 370**

Y sus ojos (And your eyes)

**Page 372**

Que novedades ahora viejo? (What news now old man?)

**Page 373**

bandida (bandit [feminine])

**Page 374**

Y por que me dice esto pues? (And why are you telling me that, then?)  
Y quien soy? (And who am I?)

**Page 375**

Pelo tan rubio... (Hair so blond. Pistol in hand. What are you looking for, young one? Why do you get up so early?)  
corridero (singer/story-teller)  
La sirena (The siren)

**Page 376**

Tome, pronto, pronto... (Come on. Quick, quick - How much? - It's free. Come on)  
Tenga prisa (Hurry)  
Espere (Wait)  
calavera (cavalier)  
Alguien? (Anyone?)  
Lo tiene (He's got it)  
Que gano (What do I win?)  
Ver que (See what?)  
Adentro (Inside)

**Page 377**

Tenemos ganador (We have a winner)  
Adelante (Come forward)  
Si, si ... (Yes, yes, it's a spectacle. You've never seen anything like this.)  
Oiga hombre... (Listen, man, I don't want to see it, you understand me?)

**Page 378**

Te conozco (I know you)  
Mande? (What can I do for you?)  
Donde esta su companero (Where's your companion?)

**Page 379**

Se murio (He died.)  
Donde esta la muchacha (Where's the girl?)  
Lo mismo (The same)  
Tiene razon (You're right)  
Y su hermano? (And your brother)  
No se... (I don't know, also dead, probably.)  
Tantos (So many, so much -- ie, so much death)  
Que piensa (What do you think?)  
Uno ha muerto (One has died)  
Uno que vive (One who is living)  
No sabes? (You don't know?)

**Page 380**

Bien dicho (Well said)  
Bueno, el camino espera (Well, the road awaits)  
nueces (nuts)

**Page 381**

Pueblo de... (Village of Bachiniva - April was the month - Armed horsemen - Arrived, the six)  
Se tenia medio... (If he was afraid - You couldn't see it in his face - So many coming - The fair one awaits them)  
novia (girlfriend, fiance)

**Page 383**

Quien es (Who is it? - A traveler - How many are you? -Myself alone -Well. Dismount. Come in.)

**Page 389**

Fall el 24... (Fell 24 Feb 1943. His brothers in arms dedicate this remembrance.)  
D.E.P. (Rest in Peace [Descansa en paz])  
Donde esta el sepulturero?... (Where is the undertaker? - Dead - Who is in charge of the cemetery?)  
- God - Where is the priest? - He left)

**Page 390**

Que quiere, joven? (What do you want, young one? Nothing, it's OK. - What are you praying for?)  
- I can't do it any other way)

**Page 394**

Que tiene alla? (What do you have there? - The bones of my brother)  
Abralo (Open it)

**Page 395**

Es un engano? (Are you a cheat/fraud Where's the money?)  
alforjas (saddlebags)

**Page 397**

Tengo que encontrar mi cuchillo. (I have to find my knife)

**Page 402**

Herida de cuchillo (Knife wound)  
Traigame agua (Bring me water)  
Con su permiso (With your permission)  
Por supuesto (Of course)  
Ladrones (Thieves)

**Page 403**

Al norte (north)  
Con respecto... (With respect to the airplane, there are three histories. Which do you want to hear?)  
404  
pueblo que conoce (a town that he knew)  
El m entiroso... (The liar must know the truth first. Do you agree?)

**Page 405**

Y por que lo quiere... (And why does the client want it? What, after all is no more than the death of his son.)  
sierra (mountain range)

**Page 406**

La historia del hijo... (The history of the son ends in the mountains, and there stays its reality.)  
Como lo ve (As you see it)

**Page 408**

Nueve dias... (Nine days. Nine nights. Without food. Without fire. Without anything.)

**Page 409**

Y entonces que? (And then what?)

**Page 411**

La cascara no es la cosa. (The husk isn't the thing)  
Y la tercera historia? (And the third history? - The third history is this. It exists in the history of the stories. It is that ultimately the truth cannot remain in any other place but in the speaking.)

**Page 412**

Estoy regresandole a mi pais (I am returning to my country)  
Otros huesos... (Other bones, other brothers.)

**Page 413**

Pensamos que somos las victimas... (We think that we are the victims of time. In reality the way of the world is not fixed in any place. How could this be possible? We ourselves are our own journey. And for this we are time as well. We are the same. Fugitive. Inscrutable. Unpitied.)

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Yo no soy un hombre del camino. (I'm not a man of the road)

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puro (cigar)