



MARTY'S

Juluchuca, Mexico

Let us go then, you and I, to Marty's bar in Mexico. On the coast, just south of Zihuatanejo. We'll take highway 200 from the airport past the Hotel California (is there one in every town?) until we get to Juluchuca. Then it's a gracefully smooth ride to the wonderful isolation of Playa Viva.

I'll ask for the mezcal de San Miguelito, and Johnny will fill our glasses from a pretty bottle. And then I'll remind you of that photo I took on my last trip, the one that shows the inglorious vessel in which this tropical intoxicant first came to Marty's. Despite possessing an appearance of Mexican moonshine, this mezcal arose an elegant warmth within me, like of a bonfire on the sand, and I vowed then to return with you someday.

November 2010

(for michele)