

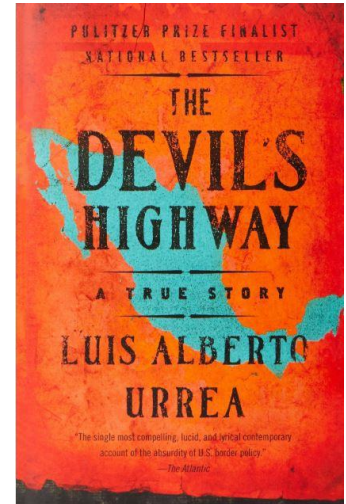
Clarkson University Common Conversations Resource Guide

The Devil's Highway – Luis Alberto Urrea

Disclaimer: these links are not maintained or updated

Summary

In May 2001, a group of twenty-six men attempted to cross the Mexican border into the desert of Southern Arizona, led into the deadly region known as the "Devil's Highway" by 'Coyotes'. Luis Alberto Urrea delivers an investigative report of what happened to these men on this harrowing journey, where only 12 made it safely across. He takes us back to the small towns and unpaved cities south of the border, where the poor fall prey to dreams of a better life and sinister promises of smugglers. We meet the men who will decide to make the crossing, and learn about the circumstances and events that prevent them from reaching their destination. Urrea's story is a well-crafted mix of first-person testimony, geographic history, cultural and economic analysis, and poetry. His story reminds us that immigration is a complicated and pressing moral, socioeconomic, and political issue.



The Author



[Luis Alberto Urrea on Facebook](#)

[Luis Albert Urrea web page](#)

author bio, books published, press (articles, interviews)

[NPR Fresh Air interview with Terry Gross](#)

podcast, March 2019

[The Answer, and Then the Question](#)

TEDx talk by Urrea about the injustices of children at the border.

[Between Two Worlds - Life on the Border](#)

Interview with Bill Moyers, May 2012

Clarkson University Common Conversations Resource Guide

The Devil's Highway – Luis Alberto Urrea

Disclaimer: these links are not maintained or updated

El Camino del Diablo : The Devil's Highway

For over 1,000 years, travelers have used El Camino del Diablo to cross the Sonoran Desert between settlements in what is now the state of Sonora in Mexico and the Colorado River in what is now Yuma, AZ. The name is Spanish for the Devil's Highway and alludes to the dangers travelers face along this route.



[El Camino del Diablo Basics - Wikipedia](#)

[El Camino Del Diablo - Desert USA](#)

Some history and photos.

[The Forbidding Reputation and Hypnotic Scenery of the Devil's Highway](#)

A New York Times photo essay, April 2019

Visas & Immigration

[Travel & Immigration in the U.S.](#)

Links to Immigration & Citizenship including how to enter the U.S., how to apply for citizenship, losing or renouncing citizenship, and deportation, as well as visas for visiting, studying, or working in the U.S.

[Visas - U.S. Dept. of State-Bureau of Consular Affairs](#)

Information on obtaining a work, study, temporary, or immigrant visa. "A citizen of a foreign country who seeks to enter the United States generally must first obtain a U.S. visa, which is placed in the traveler's passport, a travel document issued by the traveler's country of citizenship."

[Working in the United States](#)

A listing of the various visas required for temporary workers, permanent workers, student and exchange visitors.

[Visa Statistics - U.S. Dept. of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs](#)

The Visa Office annually reports statistical information on non-immigrant visa issuance by consular offices.

[U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services](#)

[Immigrant & Non-immigrant Visa Ineligibilities 2017](#)

Grounds for refusal under the Immigration and Nationality Act

Clarkson University Common Conversations Resource Guide

The Devil's Highway – Luis Alberto Urrea

Disclaimer: these links are not maintained or updated

U.S. Border Patrol

[U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#)

Official website of the Dept. of Homeland Security

[Border Patrol History](#)

[Careers: Border Patrol Agent](#)

[U.S. Customs & Border Patrol Statistics FY2019](#)

A summary of CBP enforcement actions related to inadmissibles, apprehensions, arrests of individuals with criminal convictions and individuals who have been apprehended multiple times crossing the border illegally.

More to Explore

[Immigration in North America](#)

From Migration Policy Institute. Includes reports, fact sheets, policy briefs, and articles. Includes United States, Canada, and Mexico.

[Mexican Immigrants in the U.S.](#)

Migration Policy Institute Report, Oct. 2018

[What We Know About Illegal Immigration from Mexico](#)

Pew Research Center report, December, 2018

[Border Security](#)

From Migration Policy Institute. Includes information on border enforcement, smuggling & trafficking, and technology/infrastructure.

[This Is What the US-Mexico Border Looks Like](#)

A photo essay from CNN politics.

[Mexican Migration Project](#)

An interdisciplinary team of researchers working to further understanding of the complex process of Mexican migration to the U.S. A bi-national research effort supported by University of Guadalajara (Mexico) and Princeton University. Includes a variety of data files.

[Mexico: Events of 2018](#)

From Human Rights Watch World Report 2019

[What It Costs to be Smuggled Across the U.S. Border](#)

New York Times, June 30, 2018

[When the U.S. Government Tried to Replace Migrant Farmworkers with High Schoolers](#)

Clarkson University Common Conversations Resource Guide

The Devil's Highway – Luis Alberto Urrea

Disclaimer: these links are not maintained or updated

Related Books

A small selection of titles available through the Clarkson Libraries at the time of this common conversation. There are many more texts to explore on this topic.

[Beyond El Camino Del Diablo](#) (Eugene Sierras)

[Last Water on the Devil's Highway: a Cultural and Natural History of Tinajas Atlas](#) (Bill Broyles, et al)

[Operation Gatekeeper: The Rise of the "Illegal Alien" and the Making of the U.S.-Mexico Border](#) (Joseph Nevins)

[Mexican Migration to the United States: Perspectives From Both Sides of the Border](#) (Harriett D. Romo, Olivia Mogollon-Lopez, eds.)

[Migra! A History of the U.S. Border Patrol](#) (Kelly Lytle Hernandez)

[Coyotes: A Journey Through the Secret World of America's Illegal Aliens](#) (Ted Conover)

[National Insecurities: Immigrants and US Deportation Policy Since 1882](#) (Deirdre M. Moloney)

[Border Crosser: One Gringo's Illicit Passage from Mexico into America](#) (Johnny Rico)