

“from The Sky Forever” [to say your land vanished]

 poets.org/poem/sky-forever-say-your-land-vanished

Kimberly Alidio

to say your land vanished into thinness scrap under your feet
when the name feels the same in the mouth who is the most hysterical
person
to say I was never meant to the origin moment do you remember
laughing
be about poetry's originating in childhood trauma when the first American
boot
hit the ground in a cloud of dust maybe before that you're killing me

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Kimberly Alidio's most recent books are *why letter ellipses (selva oscura, 2020)* and *: once teeth bones coral : (Belladonna*, 2020)*, a finalist for a Lambda Literary Award. A poet, essayist, and educator, she lives on unceded Munsee-Mohican territories, also known as upper Hudson Valley, New York.