

*HOUSE OF THE FIGHTING CHUPACABRAS PRESENTS*  
A Basic Poetry Workshop Workbook Series No. 3

# ¡QUE VIVA EL CHUPACABRA!

A Resource Manual To  
*Chupanery*  
Or Types Of Poems Based On  
The Legend, Myth, And Lore  
Of The South Texas Cryptid

**JUAN MANUEL PÉREZ**

2nd Edition

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*The House Of The Fighting Chupacabras* ®

*A Division Of Moon Maiden Productions* ®

***IN GOD WE TRUST!***

## **An Introduction To The Basic Poetry Workshop Workbook Series**

This series of poetry workshop workbooks were inspired and developed mainly from poetry writing programs I have conducted with the following main groups: The San Antonio Poets Association, The Alamo Area Poets of Texas, The San Antonio Writers Guild, and The San Angelo Writers Club, plus my numerous reading presentations in, out, and around the great state of Texas.

Now I present them to you, the novice and the master poet alike.

These simple poems and poetry activities are designed to help spark your own ideas on writing just in case you are in a fix or you have simply ran out of poetic magic (it happens to the very best of us).

I hope this workbook proves useful to you and I wish you the best of luck in your poetry writing... and reading.

Juan Manuel Pérez  
Corpus Christi, Texas

## THE CHUPAKU

*from The Book of Chupanitions*

**Chu·pa·ku:** a *haiku* (three-line poem with a scheme of 5 syllables for the first line, 7 for the second line, and 5 again for the final line; 5-7-5) based on the legend, myth, and lore of the mysterious chupacabra, or goat sucker.

Everything you ever learned from straight-faced English professors, high school grammar police, and serious poet laureates is about to be damaged and changed... forever... ever... ever... ever.

So if you harbor such serious fears of stepping outside of that perfect, square box of poetic forms then please get up and step away from this rebellious little chapbook written by a person that lives between the borders of real and unreal, orthodox poesy and unorthodox, conventional English and an unconventional language mix. Run... Run away fast... Leave it sitting on that same flat surface, bare naked and ready to brainwash some other willing versifying and composing minion.... Leave... leave now!

...Okay? You still here? Very well, you have been warned. I'll start you simple with this form of very twisted haiku.

### Writing Activity No. 1: Writing Your Chupaku

Now it is your turn. After you have read the Chupaku on page 5, turn to pages 6 & 7 and take the next five minutes (if this is during a workshop) or as long as you like (but I'm probably going to talk and interrupt your train of thought if this is happening during the actual workshop) and brainstorm or write your new poem(s) and/or your ideas of where you could get them published (if that is your goal).

**Chupaku No. 18**

red liquid courage  
one too many billy goats  
drunk chupacabra

*www.Writers Of The Rio Grande.com*  
*July 27, 2012*

**Chupaku No. 27**

“We Only Serve Goats!”  
sign at prejudice hotel  
Chupacabra Inn

*Star\*Line: The Journal Of The*  
*Science Fiction Poetry Association*  
*35.4*  
*October-December 2012*

**Chupaku No. 29**

el Chupacabra:  
bastard child of Cthulhu  
and Olmec nagual

*Unleash Your Inner Chupacabra:*  
*A Poetry Anthology By The Members Of*  
*The San Angelo Writers' Club*  
*October 2012*





## THE CHUQUATRAIN

*from The Book of Chupanitions*

**Chu·qua·train:** a *quatrain* (four-line poem with or without a particular rhyme scheme) based on the legend, myth, and lore of the mysterious chupacabra, or goat sucker.

Glad to see you made it through the first example of chupacabra-based poetry. Since you are here, I will reward you with the beginning of a brief history of this South Texas “cryptid.” Oh, what is a “cryptid” you ask? A cryptid is an animal that defies explanation and, as of yet, is to be included in the standard approved list of commonly known animals, like the ones we keep in zoo cages, behind farmer fences, and trapped in wild animal preserves.

The word “chupacabra,” when translated to English means “goat sucker,” was a term officially coined by Puerto Rican journalist Silverio Perez [the *Perez* referred to in *The Call Of The Chupacabra* on opposite page; no relation to me, but cool last name coincidence though] in the 1990’s after describing attacks by an unknown animal that would leave livestock, including sheep and goats, lifeless and drained of blood. However, before this name was brought to light, similar attacks and even sightings had been reported as far back as the 1970’s.

### Writing Activity No. 2: Writing Your Chuquatrain

Now it is your turn. After you have read the Chuquatrains on page 9, turn to pages 10 & 11 and take the next five minutes (if this is during a workshop) or as long as you like (but I’m probably going to talk and interrupt your train of thought if this is happening during the actual workshop) and brainstorm or write your new poem(s) and/or your ideas of where you could get them published (if that is a goal of yours).

## **The Call Of The Chupacabra**

Lovecraft has Cthulhu  
Stoker, his Dracula  
Shelly has her Frankenstein  
Perez, his Chupacabra

*Unleash Your Inner Chupacabra:  
A Poetry Anthology By The Members Of  
The San Angelo Writers' Club  
October 2012*

## **Chupacabra Lies Through Its Teeth Again**

Chupacabras are smart  
The farmer not so much  
Of course the goats left  
For a game of double dutch

*www.WritersOfTheRioGrande.com  
January 6, 2012*

## **The Old Chupacabra**

The old chupacabra sat on a fence  
The old chupacabra made no sense  
Then he fell down with a final sound  
And he hasn't spoken since

*The People's Comic Book Newsletter  
Number #127, Volume 15  
January 2011*





## THE CHUPANKA

*from The Book of Chupanitions*

**Chu·pan·ka:** a *tanka* (five-line poem with a scheme of 5 syllables for the first line, 7 for the second line, 5 again for the third line, 7 for the fourth line, and 7 again for the last line; 5-7-5-7-7) based on the legend myth and lore of the mysterious chupacabra, or goat sucker.

Still here? As I was saying before I was rudely interrupted by an annoying page break, the reports of what will later be known as “el chupacabra” existed since the 1970’s in Puerto Rico (as far as we know; there could be undocumented sightings further back in time). Some time later, it began showing up in Central and South America proper [probably stowed away like immigrant rats on a boat and made it there] specifically in the former, blood-lusting Aztec empire now known as Mexico (shout out to my great-grandparents: ¡Hola, Abuelos!).

Eventually, the creature, or creatures, would migrate into South Texas against all immigration policies and searches, with the first, major official sighting, or rather assassination, coming from Cuero just a few years back (What a bunch of turkeys! Honest truth, they call themselves the Cuero Gobblers! Ya’ll da turkeys... man...).

Anyhow, the chupacabra legend, myth, and lore has now gone mainstream and very much alive and thriving!

### Writing Activity No. 3: Writing Your Chupanka

Now it is your turn. After you have read the Chupanka on pages 13, turn to pages 14 & 15 and take the next five minutes (if this is during a workshop) or as long as you like (but I’m probably going to talk and interrupt your train of thought if this is happening during the actual workshop) and brainstorm or write your new poem(s) and/or your ideas of where you could get them published (if that is your goal).

### **El Chupacabrista**

Everything is big  
In the great, state of Texas  
Including the tales  
Of wild, chupacabra poets  
their own legend, myth, and lore

*appearing for the first time*

### **Immigration Reform #002**

Is ensuring that  
Chupacabras are treated  
Fairly, equally  
With true, designated rights  
As proper, world citizens

*appearing for the first time*

### **Chupacabra Code I**

It is never wrong  
To wait till darkness sets in  
For safety, for hope  
For your pack, for your sex life  
For your reasons to run wild

*appearing for the first time*





## THE CHUPONNET

from **The Book of Chupanitions**

**Chuponnet:** a *sonnet* (fourteen-line poem with or without a rhyme scheme) based on the legend myth and lore of the legendary chupacabra, or goat sucker.

*Since the time when the all mighty creator first gave form and life to the first chupacabra and gave him the gift and art of poetry, as well as the ability to elude all types of human authority, he first spoke in great sonnets... as far as we can tell anyway.*

Okay, so far you have seen examples of brief poems or what some poetry groups (but, not all of them) call short-form poetry (ten lines or less) for competition purposes.

Now I introduce to you the mighty sonnet of which the English Shakespeare used a whole dang lot. But who cares what I know, I'm not an English, major (I'm a major History Major, actually) and English wasn't even my first foreign language. Yes, folks! Like Spanish, English IS also a foreign language. It came on the boats from guess where: ENGLAND. It could have easily been German, but America stuck with their former ruler's language and eventually adopted it as a common language used by all immigrants living on this melting pot called the UNITED STATES!

But I digress, ...and I have run out of room again!

### Writing Activity No. 4: Writing Your Chuponnet

Now it is your turn. After you have read the Chuponnets on pages 17, 18, & 19, turn to pages 20 & 21 and take the next five minutes (if this is during a workshop) or as long as you like (but I'm probably going to talk and interrupt your train of thought if this is happening during the actual workshop) and brainstorm or write your new poem(s) and/or your ideas of where you could get them published (if that is a your goal).

## Open Letter From El Chupacabra: Part V

Your history, lost to future generations  
Ripped from the memory of mother nature itself  
That is how I will manage to elude you  
Making you deny my existence  
Escaping whatever trappings you set for me  
You will never capture me  
This is the mathematical truth  
Dispensing the reality, I dwell on the possibility  
I wish this cold-shoulder war never existed  
Yet there it is as true as the creator of creations  
As true as the beastly blood that fills my belly  
Violence in the supper, I honor their gift  
Because of it, my legend continues  
Because of it, I am wanted

*www.WritingRaw.com*  
*November 15, 2010*

### THE CHUPACABRA OATH ®

I,  
(say your name),  
swear to fight and defend  
the legend of el chupacabra  
against all naysayers  
speaking or writing in fiction or fact  
and to widely spread the myth and lore  
of the mighty and mysterious chupacabra.  
So sayeth I,  
protector of the chupacabra legend.

The Chupacabra Oath as it appeared in the book, *Unleash Your*

*The Chupacabra Oath* as it appeared in the book, *Unleash Your Inner Chupacabra: A Poetry Anthology By The Members Of The San Angelo Writers' Club* (2012)

**Miff-ology**

Indians don't perform rain dances  
Just to rain on your parade  
The Easter bunny is not born on Easter  
Nor does it give birth to chocolate-covered eggs  
St. Valentines may be a propagandist  
For porno, failed marriages, happy divorces  
St. Nick is truly too fat  
To climb down my un-existing chimney  
The gleaming tooth fairy  
Only visits affluent, popular houses  
Not beat-down Mexican barrios  
Where the only real truth is that  
Chupacabras are rolling down South Luna Street  
In supped up Chevys looking for a goat to roll

*Star\*Line: The Journal Of The  
Science Fiction Poetry Association*

35.3

July-Sep 2012

**October  
is  
CHUPACABRA  
AWARENESS  
MONTH**

**OCTOBER 5TH  
IS  
BRING YOUR  
CHUPACABRA  
TO SCHOOL OR  
WORK DAY**

Public announcements that appeared in *Unleash Your Inner Chupacabra: A Poetry Anthology By The Members Of The San Angelo Writers' Club* (2012)

## **I, Chupacabra**

I, staring at an oblivion  
That calls out entities  
Without knowledge of name  
Of family, of specie

I, staring at an oblivion  
That will surely blow me away  
Without notice, without care  
Nor kindly report back to my kin

I, staring at an oblivion  
That seeks to exterminate me  
This armed chaos called man  
Waging war on all that surrounds him

I, chupacabra  
Staring back with vengeance

*Unleash Your Inner Chupacabra:  
A Poetry Anthology By The Members Of  
The San Angelo Writers' Club  
October 2012*

### **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

*Are you tired of trying to think of a great poem to write? Can't remember the last time you were ever creative enough to include the chupacabra in your poetry? Have you lost that "I love the chupacabra" feeling? It could be too late. You could be suffering from CD (Creativity Dysfunction). Don't let it happen to you or your loved ones.*

**Help Fight**

**C.D.**

**You could be next!**





## THE CHUPINGLE

*from The Book of Chupanitions*

**Chu·pin·gle:** a hymn or song, usually written as a parody to a classic human song, based on the legend, myth, and lore of the mysterious chupacabra, or goat sucker.

We have reached the final section of this introduction to the poetic grouping called **Chupanery** (for clarity please see the title on the cover for the definition). But I never like to close without singing a song and there are three of them listed here. So, it is not if “the fat lady sings.” It is if “the illusive chupacabra growls and snarls at the moon... or your goats and your chickens.”

By the way, if you have made it this far and are still interested, I must tell you that I am already preparing a second chapbook on the discussion of **Chupanery**.

In the meantime I hope that I have provided you with a look outside that neat, little package you are so use to handling and have caused you to rip your “poetry bible” to shreds... then glue it back together into something that is more like your inner self, wild and unruly, fighting purple, pot-smoking dinosaurs on planet Alpha Beta Gamma or wherever the hell you think your parents brought you from...

Now, see... that’s why mine don’t like talking to me anymore. Just kidding... Okay, right. Lets sing!

### Writing Activity No. 5: Writing Your Chupingle

Now it is your turn. After you have read the Chupingles on pages 23, 24, & 25, turn to pages 26 & 27 and take the next five minutes (if this is during a workshop) or as long as you like (but I’m probably going to talk and interrupt your train of thought if this is happening during the actual workshop) and brainstorm or write your new poem(s) and/or your ideas of where you could get them published (if that is your goal).

## Chupa-burra

Chupacabra sits near the mesquite tree  
Happy, happy lord of the sticks is he  
Growl, Chupacabra! Growl, Chupacabra!  
Running wild and free

Chupacabra sits near the mesquite tree  
Happy, happy lord of the sticks is he  
Howl, Chupacabra! Howl, Chupacabra!  
Moon is full indeed

Chupacabra sits near the mesquite tree  
Happy, happy lord of the weeds is he  
Run, Chupacabra! Run, Chupacabra!  
Time to hide you see

Chupacabra sits on the cactus pear  
Thorns sticking out like strands of hair  
Yelp, Chupacabra! Yelp, Chupacabra!  
Sometimes life's not fair

*Inkwell Echoes:  
The Anthology Of The San Antonio Poets Association  
2012*

PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT

*Does your mom know you can't stop thinking of chupacabras?  
Well, why don't you make it official and join the*

# **CLAW<sub>2</sub>**

**The Chupacabra Lovers Association– World Wide**

*Where chupa love is not an option. It's the only rule!*

## **Rudy, El Chupacabra**

Rudy, el chupacabra  
Had a very funky smell  
That if he came around you  
It would make you feel unwell

All of the other chupas  
Begged for him to take a bath  
But he would never listen  
He was on a meaner path

Then one crazy Crismas Day  
Pancho Clos came by  
Said: Rudy, why you smell so bad  
Don't you know it drives us mad

Then Rudy threw down some gang signs  
But he knew that he was wrong  
A swim in the Rio Grande  
And we don't have to sing this song

*(again)*

Then one crazy Crismas Day  
Pancho Clos came by  
Said: Rudy, why you smell so bad  
Don't you know it drives us mad

Then Rudy threw down some gang signs  
But he knew that he was wrong  
A swim in the Rio Grande  
And we don't have to sing this song

*www.WritersOfTheRioGrande.com*  
*December 30, 2011*

## **Fat Bottom Goats**

*(Or "El Chupacabra Sings To His Meal")*

Oh, it's a full moon tonight  
Oh, for sure it will be bright  
Is she gonna put up a fight  
Fat bottom goat, she makes me crazy all around

She was just a silly willy  
Not another skinny billy  
And we know, she likes to play around

So tonight back on the farm  
I'm gonna try to take her on  
Fat bottom goat, make a believer out of me

I've been traveling place to place  
Crossing fences in my days  
I've seen every type of modern security

But there isn't any wall  
That can make me trip or fall  
Fat bottom goat, I hear you're tastiest of all

Oh, gonna feed on you tonight  
Oh, then I'm gonna be alright  
So, there's no need to fight  
Fat bottom goat, you satisfy my inner soul

*www.WritersOfTheRioGrande.com*

*January 5, 2013*





## SOME DEEP FRIED GOLDEN RULES

### *About Poetry Writing*

1. ***Read something, everything, anything, always!*** You never know where your ideas will come from. Trust me, even food ingredient labels and female sanitary brand name boxes are game; books and articles are preferred though. You will see how the ideas can flow.
2. ***Keep something to write on and something to write with on you, always!*** Journals are preferred. Pens and pencils, and sometimes a bloody finger will even work [*redrum, redrum, redrum...*] as writing utensils. Write down whatever comes to mind, regardless of how small. Some of my better ideas have started as a short phrase that waited in my journals for months and even years in some cases.
3. ***Listen to other poets and writers!*** Listen to them read and to the advice they have to give others. Good or bad, you never know how they may reveal, unknowingly at times, new approaches that you might have once considered differently or even things you suddenly feel you could do better. That means: also go to poetry or writing conferences and readings.
4. ***Don't give up on your poetry!*** Be persistent. Whether writing, re-writing, submitting your work, or reading your poetry for audiences, do it over and over again because practice does makes you perfect. Rejection and criticism keeps it real! Your work is only as real as you want it to be. To quote a favorite writer and poet: Joe R. Lansdale: Write from the heart and with all your heart! Your originality and hard work will pay off. DON'T GIVE UP!
5. ***Make your own noise!*** Don't be afraid to promote yourself (until you can afford to hire someone to do it for you). Don't be afraid to also self-publish SOME of your work. It's a poet-eat-poet world sometimes, so compete with them by putting some of your work out there. Be aggressive yet honorable at the same time.

## JUAN MANUEL PÉREZ

Juan, an American-born poet of indigenous Mexican descent, is the author of *Another Menudo Sunday* (2007), the e-book *O' Dark Heaven: A Response To Suzette Haden Elgin's Definition Of Horror* (2009), *WUI: Written Under The Influence Of Trinidad Sanchez, Jr.* (2011), and six poetry chapbooks, including the horrifically acclaimed *Dial H For Horror* (2006).

The poet has also been a member of the **San Antonio Poets' Association**, **The Poetry Society Of Texas**, **The San Angelo Writers' Club**, the **Science Fiction Poetry Association**, the **Horror Writers Association**, the **Alamo Area Poets Of Texas**, the **Writers Of The Rio Grande**, **Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers**, and **Gulf Coast Poets**.

Juan is the **2011-2012 Poet Laureate** for the **San Antonio Poets' Association** and is also recognized as a "**Poet Of The Southwest**," as well as a "**Librotraficante**," one of many Chicano harbingers of the current "Latino Renaissance" in response to Arizona's proposed book-banning regulations. He has been a featured reader and presenter at numerous poetry venues, universities, and writers' workshops around the great state of Texas, as well as, other states including New Mexico, Oklahoma, Georgia, and Ohio. So it goes without saying that he is available for readings in and out of state.

Juan writes poetry on a variety of subjects like Mexican-American/Native American life, immigration, migrant & field labor, comic books, science fiction, horror, food, and even the elusive Chupacabra for which he is also affectionately known as the **Original Chupacabrista**.

Juan has presented his poetry on the airwaves for *Corazon Bilingue* on Texas Rio Grande Valley Radio (September 16, 2010) and for the *S.C.R.E.A.M. for P.E.A.C.E. Halloween Radio Program* in San Francisco, California (October 31, 2011).

His work has appeared in *descant*, *Fresh Blood/Old Bones*, *Wordland 2*, *Elegant Rage: A Poetic Tribute To Woody Guthrie*, *Blood Moon Rising Magazine*, *Buzzkill: Apoca-*

His work has appeared in *descant*, *Fresh Blood/Old Bones*, *Wordland 2*, *Elegant Rage: A Poetic Tribute To Woody Guthrie*, *Blood Moon Rising Magazine*, *Buzzkill: Apocalypse, An End Of The World Anthology*, *San Antonio Express-News*, *New Myths*, *Arts United San Antonio Magazine*, *La Bloga*, *Eye To The Telescope*, *Dark River Press*, *Harbinger Asylum Yellow Mama*, *Moon The Eight Continent: An Anthology Of Space Poetry*, *New Texas*, *Concho River Review*, *Alamo Area Poets Of Texas Anthology*, *Agave: A Celebration Of Tequila*, *Gifts Of The Great Spirit*, *The 4th Annual Gulf Coast Poets Poetry Out Of Bounds Reading Chapbook*, *The Langdon Review Of The Arts In Texas*, *What Fears Become: The Horror Zine, Volume III*, *The Rhysling Anthology*, *The Mayo Review*, *Writers Of The Rio Grande.com*, *The Enigmatist*, *Horror Writers Association Newsletter*, *WritingRaw.com*, *The San Angelo's Writers Club Newsletter*, *Homenaje A Miguel Hernandez En Su Centenario*, *San Antonio's 350.org*, *And Now The Nightmare Begins*, *vacpoetry.com*, *Desahogate*, *thehorrorzine.com*, *Boundless*, *The People's Comic Book Newsletter*, *Voices De La Luna*, *International Poetry Review*, *Ilumen*, *Star\*Line: the Journal of the Science Fiction Poetry Association*, *The Poet Magazine*, *di-verse-city*, *Voices Along The River*, *The Dreamcatcher*, *Inkwell Echoes*, *The Palm's Leaf*, *Message of the Muse* and many other publications.

He has also done some acting and has two independent films under his belt plus he has played a supporting role in several of his students' films such as **Senior Skip Day Massacre** (2011), **The Secret Life Of A Mexican Teenager** (2011) and **Paranormal Documentary** (2011). His regular films **El Chisme** (2008) and **Donato, King Of The Vampire Drags** (2009) were both filmed in San Antonio and produced by Glorybridge Productions. His last role was as a movie extra for **Old Rodeo: The Legend Of Red Lebow** (2011) produced by the late Eugene Smith and Directed by Jody Stelzig. Juan is also a gun-slinging Mexican Indian Rogue, Old West re-enactor with a gunfighter group under the direction of actor and friend, Dean Reading (Temple Grandin (2010) and Walker

Eugene Smith and Directed by Jody Stelzig. Juan is also a gun-sliding, Mexican Indian Rogue, Old West re-enactor with a gunfighter group under the direction of actor and friend, Dean Reading (**Temple Grandin** (2010) and **Walker Texas Ranger** (1994)) out of Lockhart with most of the shows occurring in Austin, Texas.

Juan is a ten-year **US Navy/US Marine Corps Veteran** and a former Combat Medic serving in the First Gulf War (**Operation Desert Shield/ Desert Storm**, 1990 -1991) with experience as a Spanish translator providing medical assistance to those affected during Hurricane Andrew (1992) in Dade County, Florida.

Presently, he is a successful public high school history teacher in Corpus Christi, Texas where he lives.

## **POET'S PHILOSOPHY:**

**PERPETUALLY  
PROMOTING  
POETRY**

### **Thank You!**

To all the great poets and friends, and to all the awesome poet and writer groups that have supported me along the years. I love you!

And always to my wife and fellow writer,  
Dr. Malia Ann Pérez.  
I love you too, baby!

*The House Of The Fighting Chupacabras,  
a division of Moon Maiden Productions, presents:*

# THE CALL OF THE CHUPACABRA

VOLUME I

*COMING IN THE FALL OF 2015*

**SUBMISSIONS WANTED:** Submissions of all types of poetry, previously published or unpublished, based on the legend, myth, and lore of the legendary chupacabra are wanted to fill a 100 piece volume. First come, first serve (or discarded). Eligible poems not used in this volume will be used in the next volume. No limit to submission of chupacabra poems, but most poets will be limited to the appearance of ten poems or less per volume.

**PAYMENT:** One copy of the volume. No monetary payment will be awarded.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: DECEMBER 31, 2014**

**WHAT AND WHERE TO SEND IT:** (1) Send up to five poems per submission in the text of an e-mail (absolutely NO Attachments; they will be deleted). (2) Include a 100 word or less biography in the text of at least one of the e-mails. (3) Place the following in the subject line of the e-mail: POEMS FOR THE CALL OF THE CHUPACABRA ANTHOLOGY. (4) Address the email to “Dr. Malia A. Perez, Editor” and send it to this e-mail address: maliaperez94@yahoo.com; (5) Finally, BE PATIENT; we want your poems so we will get back to you as soon as possible.