



## Rio Penitente: A Novel of Expiation

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By Angus Brownfield

Black Kettle Books, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.On the brink of fifty, Robert Gattling runs away to Mexico in a custom Mercedes motor home, searching for something he can't define. After a harrowingly close call on a narrow bridge, he encounters two itinerant Mexican teenagers-violent, belligerent Berto and naive village girl Conchita-who become Gattling's reluctant wards, traveling companions, and partners in a scheme that the American concocts in an effort to finally rid himself of guilt that has plagued him throughout his extraordinarily fortunate life. Twice divorced, having succeeded at and abandoned two careers-the second of which made him rich-Gattling has never been able to forgive himself his transgressions, to see himself as having given more than he's taken. The ghost of a homeless prowler who died twenty years ago, victim of an accidental blast from Robert's shotgun, rides along wherever the traveler goes. Fearing that he'll become just another aged Berkeley crank, Gattling flees his hillside house, with its expansive view across the San Francisco Bay, and his comfortable Bay Area life. He also leaves a lover,...



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