

[Introduction, Elegy for a Great Highway—4]

completely. Already stretches of the Old Spanish Trail have vanished as IH-10 has taken the roadbed, other parts I can see beside IH-10, but they are unapproachable by car, still others have been demolished and replaced by “roadside attractions” and others take drivers away from the interstate and into the small towns and villages that grew up because of that earlier highway. And I am also writing this to remember my own personal interactions with that highway, the trips each summer, the flat tires, the desires to stop, to listen, to take part in a great community of which my own family was just one small part.