

When I hear someone speak now of one or another solution for El Salvador I think of particular Americans who have spend time there each in his or her own way inexorably altered by the fact of having been in a certain place at a certain time. Some of these Americans have since moved on and others remain in Salvador but like survivors of a common natural disaster they are equally marked by the place

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by
Joan Didion

My sojourn through Central America lasted altogether one year. It is a land baked by sun, frozen in time, ancient yet staggering toward a future, drunken and sober, gentle and full of brutality. Haunted by ghosts, enduring immense sadness, pious and poor, Central America is a land where hundreds of Don Quixotes continue to battle windmills. There have been wars fought for domination of Central American indios. U.S. involvement there is nothing new; there have been American Marines in Central America since the 1930s. I have a love for the place, deep affection for its people and a longing for peace in the area.

Rafael Lima