

## 🍷 *Partera*

Partera  
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It is her hands that they remember  
Gentle hands upon a belly  
Hands that reached to feel a heart beat  
In the soft head of a baby  
She is partera, she is midwife  
Like her grandmothers before her  
Her hands are now the living tools  
Of an ancient line of healers  
And when the time comes, she is ready  
And the door between the worlds swings wide  
She is there to give a welcome

Jesusita Aragon

When a woman has no husband, The midwife holds her in her heart  
For she was once alone and frightened, Shamed, and forced to live a part  
So she chopped and carried timbers, With the baby in her womb  
And she built herself a fine house, Life and hope filled every room CHO

It is her hands that they remember, Ancient hands upon a belly  
And her wrinkled face above them, As she hands to them their baby  
She has stood upon this threshold, Twelve thousand times and maybe  
more  
Her eyes reflect the light she sees, Gazing through that open door OHO

Jesusita Aragon is 91 years old, and carries on a 400 year old lineage of healers in northern New Mexico. She's been a mid-wife for 77 years - since she was 14. She's delivered more than 12,000 babies.

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