Enchanting and Mysterious

Encantado, enchanted, you are a mystery
Pink dolphins living in tropical freshwater rivers,
not in the ocean, and not just any rivers
Whirling free, out in the Amazon River.
Swimming low, in a submerged jungle,
Hard to spot in dark-as-night waters.

Encantado, you are unique and fascinating
Relying on echolocation to communicate and
navigate in dark muddy river waters hunting for prey.
Pink bendy bodies, turning and twisting, whirling
Surfacing by the side of the canoe,
SPLASH! A flashing glimpse of pink body,
Leaving a wake and a trail of bubbles.

Encantado, you are a mysterious creature
Thousands of kilometers from the ocean,
how did you enter the Amazon basin?
Was your journey through the Pacific Ocean,
before the formation of the Andes?
Or did you make your way into the mighty Amazon River
from the Atlantic Ocean?

Wanderlust and love of travel have taken Katacha Díaz all over the world to gather material for her stories. She earned her BA and MPA from the University of Washington. She was a research associate at the University of California, Davis. Among the children’s books she has authored is Badger at Sandy Ridge Road for the Smithsonian Institution’s Backyard series. Her writing appears or is forthcoming with Anak Sastra, The Galway Review, Barely South Review, Westview, Visual Verse, The MacGuffin, Medical Literary Messenger, Cecile's Writers', Peacock Journal, Flash Frontier, New Mexico Review, Gravel, Foliate Oak, and elsewhere. She lives and writes up in her perch with a wide view of the Columbia River in the Pacific Northwest.