





Mi piel, sangre y alma

I wake up in the morning and see the bright sun beam onto my dark complexion I know that in my veins runs the same blood as those who came before me Reminding me that if they could, I can As I take that first breath of the day I feel my soul being replenished and prepared for the ventures of the day see myself in the mirror, starring at my brown eyes, my nose that seems wider than it needs to be, and the puff of hair that rests on my head All of these things create me, build me, and represent me 🔤 and without my Latinidad, wouldn't have any of them

CMCO,



Kay Mojica



Indigenous Roots-Oil paint on canvas

ialish Love Poem

Look, I cannot stop oppressing myself. Distrust is a fast fashion, neo-colonial pancho I wear as I walk around my self. It is morning, in Los Angeles, after yoga, where my teacher told us to be curious and now I am chugging coffee to feel happy to be alive. It is good to play. Otherwise, my toes stiff from tip-toeing. My tangled head hurts. I'm scared of poetry. I lost who I thought I was in a book I wrote, and now, I am worried I don't know anything at all. Audre Lorde said no one can shame me for what I have already admitted to, but now, I am sorry. Now, I cannot forgive the people who love me since my neopost-colonial intellect squints against emerald love of the oldiez songs, the groove and crest of what I tell myself is love, unguided by my ancestors, neglected by my family of men. I'm bored of feeling colonized. My friends say my apartment looks like an Urban Outfitter's display. But I like sipping from my Selena coffee mug, meditating on this black embroidered cushion, imagining the El Camino I will one day drive when I prove myself to my self by decolonizing my heart. I want someone next to me, but my pessimism can't yet future. Who am I if someone loves me? I cannot continue to be who I think I am.

Sara Borias

ederes de entima



Aidee Martinez



El Senor de las Flores



El señor de las flores se encuentra en la King y la Story

Acerca de la Tropicana y Cardenas

Los carros pasan uno por uno

Cuando la luz se pone roja, es tiempo de trabajar

De bajo un cielo azul, lleno de sol

He walks up and down el concreto que separa la carretera

His straw hat shading his face

Beads of sweat roll down the side of his forehead

He has red roses, tulips, sunflowers, de lo que tu quieras

The hand holding the flowers is:

Large, weathered, hardened by sacrifice

They are manos de obrero

"Hola muchacha gustaría flores?"

"Si claro! A cuanto las da?"

"Las doy a \$20 pero se las dejo en \$10"

"No, no haci esta bien. Vendemelas a \$20 por favor"

"Gracias muchacha que Dios la bendiga"

"Igualmente gracias por todo!"

El señor de las flores camina para apoya a su hijxs

Pa poner comida en las mesa, luz en la casa, techo sobre sus cabezas

Para mandarle dinero a su mama y apa

Que ya tienen sus anos y a los que no ha visto desde de que el tenia 16 anos

El camina por un futuro mejor

La gente que dice que vinimos robar trabajo,

El trabajo nunca se va acabar

Al contrario aquí te espera el señor de las flores

Pa decirte:

"Tu crees que vengo aquí a jugar? Tu crees que me encanta estar en el sol todo el puto día para que la gente me diga que mis flores están caras? Como si no me costara.

No seas pendejx.

Tu crees que decidi dejar a mis padres,

Mis amigxs, mi casa por una vida aquí donde no me quieren?

'Tas bien mal

Como quisiera darle un abrazo a mi apa,

Comerme las tortilla hecha mano de mi ama,

Y ensenarles el rancho a mis hijxs.

Y todo esto lo puedo tener si solamente tuviera unas hojas de papel.

Aqui estan tus pinches flores."

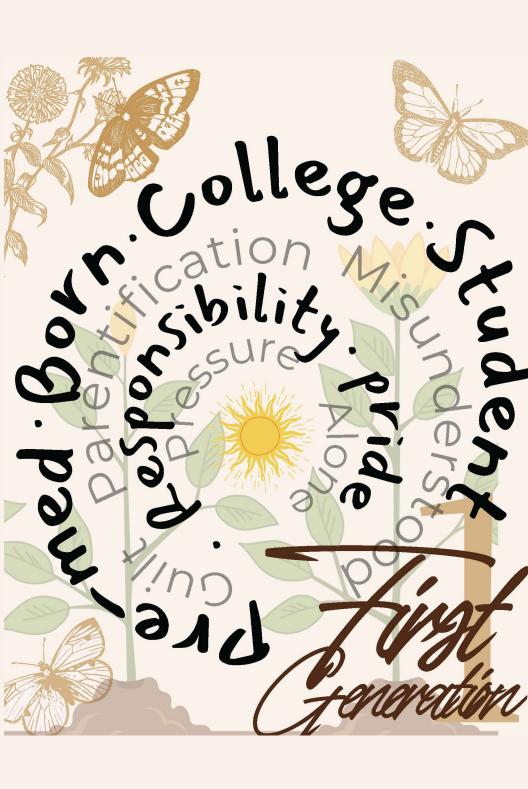
El señor de las flores camina hasta que el sol se duerme.

Y aveces el señor de las flores se va a su segundo trabajo

Porque solo los de papeles tiene un trabajo que paga bien.



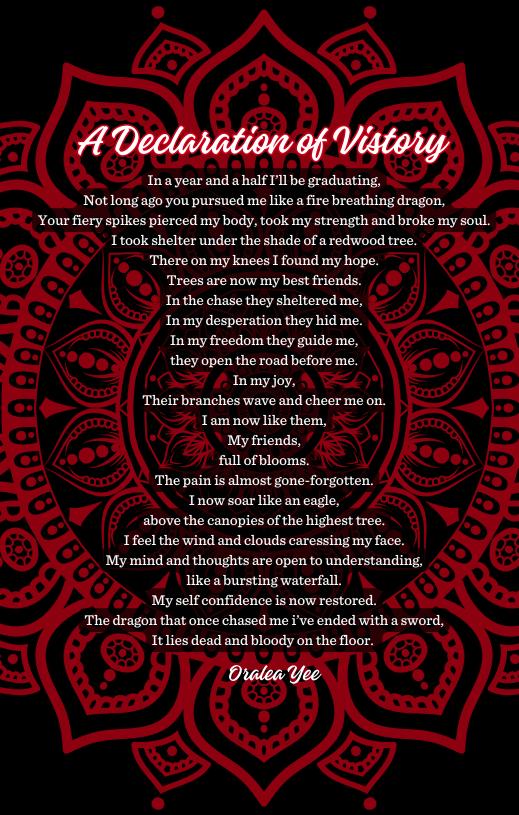
Stacey Aguilar Sanchez





"Panadería Nostálgica" is a digital ilustration inspired by my childhood visits to the local Mexican bakery. During winter, I often bought pan dulce from the bakery and shared it with my family over coffee or Mexican Fruit Punch at my uncle's house. My family's favorite treats were Conchas, Gingerbread Piggies, and Smiley Face cookies, which I always looked for first when visiting the bakery. The artwork depicts a common experience many Latinx children share during holidays and family gatherings as they choose their favorite treats and drinks to have with their loved ones.

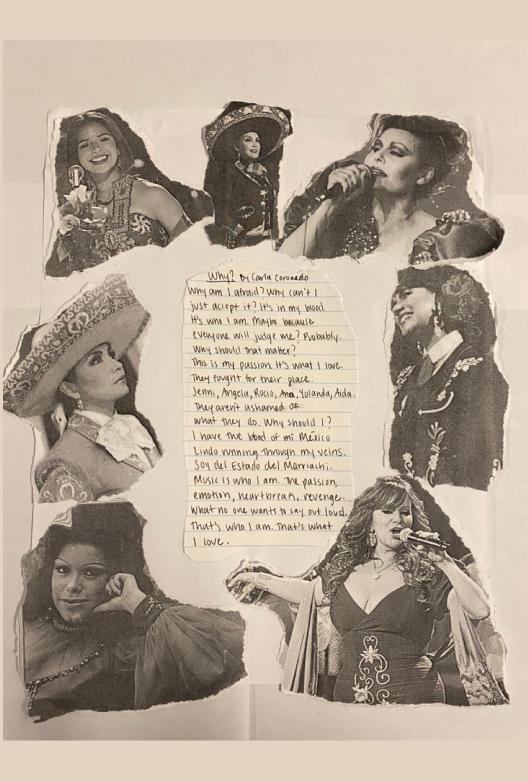
Vanessa Valenzuela-Berumen



<u>Letting me be</u>



daisy







Me: Mama soy Americano?

Mom: No, Tu eres Mexicano, nada tienes Americano

Me: Pero naci aqui Mom: Eso es todo

Mom: Tu familia de los dos lados todos Mexicanos, y ni

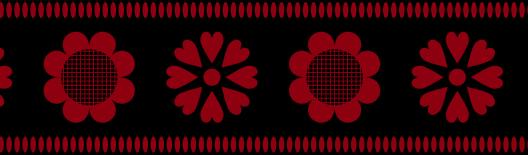
pareces nada Americano!

Yeah, I was born here but, I relate more to the people in Mexico than here in the States, whenever someone asks me where I am from, I can only think of Mexico. I am still trying to figure out why.

Mateo Reyes-Lopez









Karla Parada





I enjoy exploring new places, making new friend.

I love my family, my cat, trying new foods

I fear spiders and not knowing what comes next

I wonder how my future will look like

I wish I could talk to my ancestors

I dream of becoming a nurse

I feel excited and nervous about my future

I plan to appreciate the lands I came from

Valencia



Recently I sought out to build my own altar in my apartment. On the altar lay my offerings- a succulent along with things gifted by family and friends such as a cat charm, jade ring, angels from the Vatican, candles and other sentimentals.

I grew up with altars all my life as they are built in every place my family has lived. My family's altars are always placed facing the front door of the house and on top of collected chinas in our best looking cabinet decorated with photos of my grandparents, buddha statues, fruits and other offerings. Living away from home since I left for college, now I am comforted by the nightly ritual of lighting incense and candles and tending to my altar.

Many of my friends also use altars for ancestral or spiritual comfort and protection. I believe this shared tradition/common practice illustrates one of the many ways our communities, such as Asian and Latinx, are interconnected as altars serve various personal and collective purposes such as to honor and celebrate our loved ones, memories, lives and love.

Kate Pham Janette Rivera

I didn't seek out to make an altar, it happened naturally. I was raised catholic but it didn't take. However, I do believe in a higher power- whatever form that may be. I believe in praying for the safety and protection of others. And I believe these prayers to be heard. My altar holds what is sacred to me: a gold necklace with a ring that was worn by my sisters before it was given to me; the original pendant from that necklace, which is a gold tweety; a Sanrio angel figurine; an 'R' letter pin that stands for my last name; and my most coveted, a Polaroid of me and my first dog Yoshi, a Polaroid of my dog Rango and in the center a promotional card with the backing image of the Virgen De Guadalupe.

Although I wouldn't describe myself as religious or catholic, there is something about the Virgen De Guadalupe that has always been comforting to me. Her image has always been present within my life. To 'charge' my altar, I usually like an incense near it or light the tall white candle besides itwhich is also adorned with the Virgen's image.



