2019

Alteridad

Briana Yah-Díaz
Humboldt State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/courageouscuentos

Part of the Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education Commons, Chicana/o Studies Commons, Civic and Community Engagement Commons, Community-Based Learning Commons, Creative Writing Commons, Curriculum and Instruction Commons, Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence Commons, Educational Sociology Commons, Ethnic Studies Commons, Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Commons, Gender and Sexuality Commons, History Commons, Inequality and Stratification Commons, Latin American Languages and Societies Commons, Latina/o Studies Commons, Modern Literature Commons, Politics and Social Change Commons, Race and Ethnicity Commons, Reading and Language Commons, and the Theory, Knowledge and Science Commons

Recommended Citation

Available at: https://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/courageouscuentos/vol3/iss1/10

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 4.0 License
© 2016 Department of Critical Race, Gender & Sexuality Studies (CRGS) at Humboldt State University.
This Collective Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Digital Commons @ Humboldt State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in CouRaGeouS Cuentos: A Journal of Counternarratives by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Humboldt State University. For more information, please contact kyle.morgan@humboldt.edu.
Alteridad
Briana Yah-Díaz

Otherness is the pigmentation of my skin,
No soy melanina como aquellos suavemente besados por el sol, soy color de mazapán.

Soy una Xicana privilegiada.
My fair skin, education, and citizenship.
Me siento culpable, culpable por tener privilegios que nunca pedí.
I live in the borderlands,
Esto es difícil de decir.

Otherness are the characteristics of my hair,
"Cabello de los negros" dice mi mama.
My hair does not keep quiet,
El sol juega con mi pelo.

Otherness is my last name.
"Yah?", ella me pregunta, "eres de China?"
The only piece I have given by my father,
Sangre maya, costa de Yucatán, significa dolor.

A single mother and sister raised me,
2002 te transformaste en una verdadera paloma.
It’s been fifteen years too long,
Te extraño.

Otherness
Mi nombre, mi presencia, mi existencia.