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## Alteridad

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# *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.