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La Brujis

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La Brujis

Bridget Ocampo

Mi nombre, something bittersweet. Why must they name me after a privileged white actress? ¿Por qué no un nombre que cuando lo digan baile? Que se sienta en todo el cuerpo, something I cannot feel with my name, algo tan simple. Every time in family gatherings I have to add an accent to my name para que entiendan. Y después me dicen que gringa soy because my name resembles the way I forget my language. Batallando para decir palabras que son “fácil,” como dicen toda mi familia es porque mi nombre me ha cambiado. Como si mi nombre me ha hecho olvidar como hablar en español o cómo hacer el grito cuando mi papá pone el mariachi. Si nomas supieran que mi nombre cambia every time I introduce myself to someone new para que sepan que soy Mexicanx. Como una vez salí en el radio y les dije a todos que me llamó, “Brujis or Brijida.” I gave myself these names so they, the people... NO, my people, won't have trouble saying it, and can call me either one because I love these names that I have given myself. Hoping that my friends call me this in order to be seen as “Mexican.” Como si mi nombre tiene el nopal que yo tengo en la frente. El nopal that I want to carry within my name, un nopal que no me da vergüenza que me llamen because my name does not represent where I come from. I myself represent who I am, and I am as Mexican como un nopal con tacos on a nice sunny day.