

# CouRaGeouS Cuentos: A Journal of Counternarratives

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## Breathe

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# Breathe

By Ramona j.j. Bell

separating the darkness to reveal  
myself.

I gave birth in the orange and purple of dawn.

My womb p

O

U

R

S Orange,  
Zambezi, Congo,  
Niger and  
Nile.

Wisdom tilts my chin up. My smile  
awaits for war and rape and gods and greed  
to purge from my legs, my back, my knees. Still  
I breathe  
separating the darkness to reveal  
you.