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¿Dónde Está Shame?

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¿Dónde Está Shame?

Jacqueline Ramírez

the melting pot of frustrations
brown women surround me
masa here and there

mi abuela holds her hands close
together in prayer,
hope for a new way

her nerves are on strike
sick of conforming to
white man's needs

The immigrants cursed the ways
of their children;
traditions looked down upon,

the ground shakes with disapproval
Dónde está shame?

Yes, I don't know the language
of my ancestors; but
I am a Chicana,

I cook away all the shame
bring smiles to faces with full bellies
and when my tummy aches, bread and butter will not do
I need mi abuela's crisp, hot, buttered tortillas

Donde esta pride?