

# Tapestries: Interwoven voices of local and global identities

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## La Frontera

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# La Frontera

Gabriela Deal-Marquez

La frontera builds a bridge en mi corazon  
A bridge of two lands under the same sky  
Of “don’t build borders en mi Alma”  
Of “my body will not be walked over”  
Of “fences may restrain me, but they won’t contain me”

La frontera builds a bridge en mi corazon  
Half here and half there  
Because I live walking  
Walking between cultures  
Out of one, into another  
And back again

La Frontera builds a bridge en mi corazon  
A bridge of darkness and sun  
Like a nightmare that sends you spiraling through a black hole,  
but doesn’t wake you up  
And I wonder if nightmares are just reminders of life  
And I wonder if nightmares are just reminders of our own hopes  
and fears

La Frontera builds a bridge en mi corazon  
A bridge with two languages that steal life from each other  
Sewing my two worlds violently together  
Two languages  
rejecting and embracing each other  
Two languages that give birth to the borders of my body  
To the borders of my people  
To the borders of my land

And I live fighting  
Fighting for my own memories, for my own histories  
In one rainstorm  
In one afternoon  
In one moment in time  
In every year of my life  
Knowing that fighting half here and half there  
Means fighting everywhere