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