

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Rosie Flores: "Difference"

Rosie Flores · Wednesday, April 13th, 2016

Differences

It all started when my granny crossed over
 To be in the U.S to celebrate the Passover
 And one day she'd be the next crossover
 So, watch out for the low riders jumpin' over her corners
 Life was hard according to her memory
 Spending anniversaries and birthdays at the cemetery
 Chicanos tried to keep the culture alive
 Because of the scary "vatos en la calle killing their own kind"
 We speak accents untouched by time
 We tell stories of memories through the years with worries to die
 Fearing for the future was a pain of the past,
 The past led to their life's future and some never seemed to last
 Roses are red and we are brown
 One thing about la raza is that we never back down, but one thing's for sure
 There is no us without trust and in God we do trust,
 But trust we didn't cross the border the border crossed us
 It all started when they began killing our brothers and sisters out there in the street
 Never caring to look back at the blood stains they left out on our concrete
 Passing by people, exchanging smiles, they looked like the enemy so they still got spit on their feet
 Never giving off any heat and still judged from 1979 because of the sounds of their own beat
 Most of the neighborhoods see their life in a glimpse
 Don't press the trigger, don't take away their life, it's not yours it's his
 Some of which have died
 And some are left lucky enough to even make it to the police cruiser alive
 Nowadays you're a felon for wearing a hoodie and walking alone at night
 Should we just start roaming the streets naked and cold, no that's not right
 What's up with this racial divide?
 How long is it gonna take till they let us try and finally fight for our lives
 It all started with a set of a different faith and belief
 Why is that when the people held responsible are killed we get a sense of relief
 I thought we all agreed that we didn't like to go through grief
 Worked so hard to be proud Americans and it turns out we're all the same
 Red blooded and still discriminated because of the pronunciation of their names

We've got to stop putting the blame on all because that would be the wrong aim
Being struck down by all the lies
We're all losing our minds because of the tension of heat
Opinions turning into facts, no justice, no peace

Rosie Flores is this week's feature on "[Tomorrow's Voices Today](#)", the new series curated by poet and educator Mike Sonksen.

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