

# 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

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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

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

This entry was posted on Wednesday, April 13th, 2016 at 6:00 pm and is filed under [Poetry](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [Comments \(RSS\)](#) feed. You can leave a response, or [trackback](#) from your own site.