

*\*La Frontera (The Border)*  
Translation by Seth Michelson

*un lugar a que todo el mundo vamos  
al tener un sueño  
y ver a mi familia feliz*

*a place the whole world goes  
when we dream  
and want to see our families happy*

*pero no nos dejan llegar a la frontera  
por ser de otro país*

*but they don't let us reach the border  
because we're from other countries*

*y me pregunto por qué  
si todos somos seres humanos  
somos los mismos  
no tenemos papeles  
porque estamos en el mismo mundo  
tenemos sentimientos iguales*

*and I ask myself why  
if we're all human beings  
if we're all the same  
don't we have papers too  
because we're all in the same world  
have the same feelings*

*el color de piel es diferente  
pero eso no quiere decir que no somos iguales  
es que en este país en mi país  
hay mucha gente racista*

*though our skin colors may differ  
but that doesn't mean we're not the same  
it means that in this country in my country  
there are lots of racists*

*el ser blanco, el ser negro  
no quiere decir*

*to be white, to be black  
doesn't mean we are unequal*

*que somos iguales  
somos todos iguales  
tenemos la misma mente  
la misma meta*

*we're equal  
we have the same thoughts  
the same goal*

*el caminar dias por el desierto  
al inmigrar nos agarra*

*to walk for days across the desert  
called to immigrate*

*\*From Dreaming America, Voices of Undocumented Youth in Maximum-Security Detention, used by kind permission of poet Seth Michelson and Larry Moffi, publisher of Settlement House Books, First Edition, ©2017*