

5-2022

Pal Norte

Grand Valley State University Undocumented Student

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/undocumented-cartoneras>

ScholarWorks Citation

Grand Valley State University Undocumented Student, "Pal Norte" (2022). *Undocumented Students' Cartoneras Collections*. 2.

<https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/undocumented-cartoneras/2>

This Open Access is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@GVSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Undocumented Students' Cartoneras Collections by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@GVSU. For more information, please contact scholarworks@gvsu.edu.



Pal

Norte



UNDOCUMENTED. ILLEGAL. WETBACK.

Words. Stinging deep into my mestizo skin like a thousand little bee stings.

MY BIGGEST CRIME?

BEING AN UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANT.

Brought to the United States at the age of three.

Drugged, Hidden, and Smuggled.

Like a shadow without an identity, I arrived unannounced.

Protegida por los Santos y la Virgen de Guadalupe.

An intruder.

My skin the color of wet dirt.

My eyes the color of mole.

My ancestral lineage contrasting deep against the pale skin and ocean blue eyes of my new fellow güeritos.

THE BLACK SHEEP.

A rule breaker.

I AM A DREAMER.

Silence and stealth

Underneath the warm desert sand

Without a compass, map, or passport

Mi abuelo and padre crossed

Their direction? The northern star.

The tradeoff?

Aguantomos los pesticidas

Aguantomos el sol

Agunatamos el dolor

Agunatamos el muro

Agunatamos ser esclavos por romper la ley

They buried us, but they didn't know we were seeds

POR LO QUE FUE Y POR EL FUTURO

Por los sacrificios de mi familia.

For my father not being able to attend his father's funeral.

For my mother not being able to hold her siblings for 23 years.

I REFUSE to be reclusive.

Con actitud.

Multi-lingual.

With appetite

Con Ganas

For my childhood and innocence that was stolen.

YO LUCHO

I SPEAK MY TRUTHS.

BARRIERS, I BRAKE THEM.

From the wise words of Frida Kahlo

"Feet, Why Do I Need Them If I Have Wings To Fly"

"Pies, ¿para qué los quiero si tengo alas para volar?"

