The Afro-Latina Woman

By: La-Eleya Unique Lopez

Where do I fit in?

I'm not dark enough to Black

I'm not Puerto Rican enough to be Hispanic

Whatever that means

I am told I am disgrace due to my inability to speak Spanish

"How are you Puerto Rican and don't speak Spanish?"

You're not one of us!

Then it's "how are you Black when your hair is nice and curly?"

You're not one of us!

What if I told you my hair gets nappy?

Will I fit in then?

What if I told you I am fantasized sexually for being a Hispanic woman?

Would I fit in then?

They push me away because I don't fit into the "criteria" not realizing the standards they have set are just a perpetuation of the stigmas placed on our kind

Your acceptance of me does not save me from the struggles that we face

Discrimination

Racism

Classism

Poverty

Sexism

What must I do to be accepted by you?

I find myself changing my walk, my talk, my hair, my style

All to feel some sense of belonging

Not realizing, I've lost myself along the way

But today, I've accepted that I am not meant to be like you

I am meant to be myself.

The same way you didn't choose your skin, I didn't either

And yet, we still need to embrace ourselves and our differences

I am proud of both of my cultures

Arroz con pollo con plátanos

Collard greens with some baked mac and cheese

I've got the best of both worlds, if you ask me

Whether I am accepted or not

I celebrate my diversity and culture

And I wouldn't change it for a thing

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDTFhnrq7dI