

Ni de aquí, ni de allá: ni de la pinche luna

JOSE HERNANDEZ DIAZ

If we call ourselves Mexican American, we are sellouts.
If we call ourselves Chicanos, we are radicals.

If we write in Spanish, we are foreigners.
If we write in English, we are assimilating.
If we write in Spanglish, we have no class.

If we put accent marks on our names, we are trying to prove a point.
If we do not put accent marks, we have once again assimilated.

If we dress like a cholo, we are a threat.
If we dress preppy or like a surfer, we are whitewashed.

If we study Ethnic Studies, we are being difficult.
If we study English Literature, we are Tío Tomás.

If we stick to politics, we are pigeonholed.
If we write about the sunset, we are hopeless romantics.
If we write about the future, we are delusional.

Best to accept these contradictions.
Best to remember our roots.

