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Closed Doors

Sandra Gutiérrez

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Sandra Gutiérrez resides in Las Cruces, New Mexico. She received her bachelor’s degrees from New Mexico State University (NMSU) and her master’s degree from the University of Michigan (U of M). She is originally from Aguascalientes, Mexico. Sandra arrived at the NM Southwestern border region at the age of 12, speaking only Spanish. She was raised near a small agricultural town known as the Chile Capital of the World, Hatch, NM. Sandra now works as a Clinical Social Worker, EMDR Clinician and Consultant, and NM Board Approved Supervisor. She has also been a university graduate level Adjunct Professor and is currently a doctoral level student at two educational institutions. Sandra is due to graduate with a Clinical Sexology Ph.D. this coming May, 2023. Sandra has an interest in topics related to equity i.e., feminism, immigration, first-gen Latina mentorship, mental health, sexology, and higher education. Sandra is a first-generation female college graduate and professional. She is also the mother to two boys, ages seven and sixteen and wife to her husband of 18 years.

Every door was locked before
I could even dare explore
The wonders of my true being
Pleasures withheld in my body

Subtle ways of closing doors
And others blatantly so
Nonetheless the door was closed
To a body that belongs

Not to the many institutions!
Not to the many individuals!
Which closed doors to many bodies
Yielding many solitary

Hence, I opt to here reclaim
My body and all the decisions
Surrounding every placer
Reclaiming all expeditions

Owning my body again!

Expeditions to my body
Thus, opening every door
Through keys that no-one possesses
Cutting through the many latches
Imposed upon female bodies