## Where You From?

## By: Gina Valdés

Adapted by Fishtank Staff

- 1 Soy de aquí y soy de allá from here and from there
- 5 born in L.A. del otro lado y de éste crecí en L.A. y en Ensenada
- 10 my mouth still tastes of naranjas con chile soy del sur
- soy del sur

  15 y del norte
  crecí zurda
  y norteada
  cruzando fron
  teras crossing
- 20 San Andreas
  Tartamuda
  Y mareada
  where you from?
  soy de aquí
- 25 y soy de allá
  I didn't build
  this border
  that halts me
  the word fron
- 30 tera splits on my tongue

<sup>&</sup>quot;Where You From?" by Gina Valdés from COOL SALSA: BILINGUAL POEMS ON GROWING UP LATINO IN THE UNITED STATES edited by Lori M. Carlson. Poem copyright © by Gina Valdés. Compilation copyright © 1994 by Lori M. Carlson. Used by permission of Henry Holt and Company. All Rights Reserved.

Original Poem		English Translation by Fishtank Staff	
1	Soy de aquí	1	I am from here
	y soy de allá		and I am from there
	from here		from here
	and from there		and from there
5	born in L.A.	5	born in L.A.
	del otro lado		from the other side
	y de éste		and from this one
	crecí en L.A.		I grew up in L.A.
	y en Ensenada		and in Ensenada
10	my mouth	10	my mouth
	still tastes		still tastes
	of naranjas		of oranges
	con chile		with chile
	soy del sur		I am from the south
15	y del norte	15	and from the north
	crecí zurda		I grew up left handed
	y norteada		and turned north
	cruzando fron		crossing bor
	teras crossing		ders crossing
20	San Andreas	20	San Andreas
	Tartamuda		Stuttering
	Y mareada		And dizzy
	where you from?		where you from?
	soy de aquí		I am from here
25	y soy de allá	25	and I am from there
	l didn't build		I didn't build
	this border		this border
	that halts me		that halts me
	the word fron		the word bound
30	tera splits	30	ary splits
	on my tongue		on my tongue