

Write Your Words

By Eddy Francisco Alvarez Jr.

Write your words.

Write your life, your magic, your myths.

Construct yourself,

Remake yourself,

Always with words, magic words,

Like cocooning butterflies, ocean waves,

Like fire,

Like crystals,

Like ant colonies,

Magic, healing words,

That create always and recreate,

Magic words.

Write your words

to leave a legacy, a history a herstory, a queerstory,

so that your words may create paths to follow,

Recipes for self-love, self-healing, survival,

recetas para combatir las penas que la vida nos da,

las dolencias,

las locuras,

las llagas,

las heridas, the wounds.

Escribe tus palabras, tus historias, tu legado.

Write your words and you can sprinkle them on there,

like glitter,

Como pomada, rub them on your skin,

So that they may heal,

Vibrant, radiant, shimmering words,

Our words, our bricks,

Red like fire,

Como la lumbre que quema y purifica,

Red like the spilled blood of our ancestors,

Rojo como el atardecer,

Como el desierto,

Como la locura.

Write your words so that no one can erase you, e-race you

e-R-A-C-E you

From texts books, library shelves, policy handbooks,

e-RACE you

from the annals of humanity where our existence has been ignored, forgotten, distorted,
disrupted, displaced, disputed,

Where in the white, white pages of history, our stories have been washed out, white washed,
painted over, written over.

Write subliminal messages, graffiti, love letters, memoirs,

On post its, on napkins, on your skin,

Write your words,

follow "Tlilli, Tlapalli," Gloria Anzaldúa writes,

"the path of red and black ink."

Write your words

As a shaman, a healer, a teacher,

Write.

Maybe as a lonely daughter writing home to her mother

Or a young man writing letters to his lover in prison.

Write a shopping list,

A poem to your old lover, your new lover, your queer lover.

Write your words before others write them for you,

Before they tell tall tales, make up stuff, misrepresent you,

E-RACE you.

Write your words,

Pretty, painful, honest, raw,

sometimes inadequate, uninspired, shallow,

It doesn't matter

porque son tus palabras.

Write your words.

Construct yourself, remake yourself

Always with words, magic words

Like cocooning butterflies, ocean waves,

Like fire, like crystals,

Like ant colonies,

Magic, healing words,

That creates always and recreate

Magic words.