

White: Passing:

By Leslie C. Sotomayor

Light skin stretched over bones
spanish blood pumping through my veins
Translucent, glow in darknessssssssss
Road maps connecting my past to this day
All that I try to set aside, the maps keep coming up
Pushed by the blue veins protruding more as time goes by

I am passing, passerby.

white passing, passing for privilege, passing to turn a blind eye, passerby.

Carry the weight of his, her, their atrocities on your head
Heavy crowns adorned with stolen jewels--
Raped from the lands
Caves left barren
Gauging cuts clothed in royal garments
Gold and diamonds choking at my neck

I am passing, passerby.

White: accusation: white: value: white: no history: white: with surprise: white: acceptable:
I am passing, passerby.

Stolen love affairs with exotic flowers under the flamboyant
Betrayal in darkness, tears watering the earth for you to bloom
For a minute.
Shade me under the royal palms.
Forget my colors, they seep into the soil
Staining their memories

I am passing, passerby.

White: sugar: white: soap: white: sterile: white: prestige: white: heaven:
I am passing, passerby.