San Antonio Review • WordPress Imports (Pending Organization) - Ian:
You can use this.

Red, White, and Blue

Published on: Oct 07, 2017

License: [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License \(CC-BY 4.0\)](#)

by Amanda Bustos

Please take a stand for your red,
white, and blue. Take a stand for
the land of the greatest, land of
the honest, land of the cherished
liberty. Freedom for all and
above all. Freedom for my sisters
and brothers. Freedom to write

on this paper and freedom to stand outside the beloved White House,
chanting with signs in my hand for the rights I still lack. Take a stand
for your right to vote, and your unalienable right to carry your forty-
five to your local supermarket. Take a stand for the flag or you will
meet the red, white, and blue. The pavements will be red and your
bruises will be blue if your skin is not white and your eyes are not blue.
Take a stand for the land of the greatest. Land of the free, unless you
are any shade of brown, gay, or poor. Ignore that your ancestors are
Irish or English and your great-grandfather himself shed the blood of
Native Americans from sea to shining sea. Protect the land of equality.
If anyone's shade is not what yours is, chain their hands. If you cannot
make them work your plantation, throw them in jail for half a gram of
crack. No one will see the bag of cocaine in your pocket. I will not say
your name, for your name resonates in the mind of many cops
throughout our nation. Your name poisons the air as the guy in the
“Make America Great Again” hat stares at a girl in a hijab with hatred.

Or perhaps, today it is the girl who translates your insults to her mother. “But my back is dry,” answers the mother. Build all the walls around dear corrupt Mexico, lie to the masses, but you cannot fool a heart that stands with the red, white, and blue, not your hatred masked under the colors and disagreements of this nation. You can take a mother back to her penniless, cartel-filled land, but you cannot steal the hope that pounds with her heartbeat. Take a stand for fellow immigrants, sweat for the American Dream in the fields, in construction, or cleaning houses, and are met by old flags most of them cannot even recognize. Who is Robert E. Lee? Who is oppressing you, white man? What do you stand for with a torch in your hand? What do you strive for when you hit that black man? White man, you do not need to test it, the gore in history textbooks can guarantee: Punch the black man and his skin bruises blue too. Even though his eyes are not blue, stab the brown of his skin, cut the tissue, reach his veins, and his blood is red too.