

form: narrative - tells us a story

My Name is Jorge

theme: racism/ prejudice

(On Both Sides of the River

by Jane Medina speaker: Jorge

audience: us The Library Card

Today I went to the library. Setting

Mamá called it -la libreria-

But I know they don't sell books here.

My teacher said with a library card you can use them for free:

Free books Standing still, Straight and Tall

So anybody can grab them Anybody Can open them and wander inside

Their halls of dreams.

Mamá wouldn't let go of my stiff hand. She looked like Miguelito before a spelling test -big eyes.

her shoulders up high underneath her blue shawl.

We need card.

-Necesitamos una tarjeta, Mamá- I tugged Mamá

to the long, wooden desk, shiny,

like the head of the man who gave us paper for a card.

The man made a frown with his mouth after he gave us the paper.

-like he didn't want us to take the paper

-like he didn't want us to take his books.

--Vamonos, m'ijo,-- Mamá said.

"But Mamá, pleading we can't go!

I need books for school. Free books

Standing still Straight and Tall So anybody can grab them Anybody can open them And wander inside Their halls of dreams

We hid at a corner table. Mamá whispered the answers when I read from the paper. I gave her the pen.

She twisted it around and around 'till she found the best way to fit it in her hand.

Then she drew her name.

The paper and I jumped up from the table and ran to the shiny-head man.

"Boy," he said too loud and too slow

-like talking to Abuelita,

You can't sign this paper. I told him my mom signed it.

-Mamá, ¿verdad que la firmo usted? she shook her head - But the man laughed at Mamá's bent name,

Mamá's little girl signature.

Then his frown

surrounded Mamá and me.

--Vamonos, Mamá,-- I don't want these books.

Free books Standing still, Straight and Tall So anybody can grab them Anybody Can open them and wander inside their halls of dreams,

anybody, but Mamá and me.

Value education - equal education

repetition for emphasis

embarrassed, don't want to be insulted protecting Mama

illiterate

personification

grandma man shows

his ignorance - ironic -

personification

poetic shift - Change in attitude

"Coming of age"

learns an adult lesson

Mama doesn't speak English inexperienced at American life implies they are poor

personification

"opens a new world"

American Dream

MLK / allusion

simile fear - new to her

books = Knowledge books are "alive"

shiny, like the head of the man who gave us paper for a card. transaction

racist -

dialogue

anaphora

"Coming of age"