

The American Dream

I am a daughter of an immigrant, born here as an infant
But I've always felt different, made me feel diffident
Growing in a small town is tough
When 96 percent of the people here are white, but you learn enough
Enough to pass as someone who isn't an outcast
Someone who is strong enough to outlast
So that I can grow up and work hard if it inclines me
So I can outgrow the term anchor baby that defines me

The debate club is my favorite after-school activity,
Where we talk about bills, current topics, and the newest nominees.
The hardest issue is immigration reform people are so uninformed
They say
"people come into this country ceaselessly
We gotta protect ourselves and up the security so that
we know we can keep out those who come in illegally
They need to wait in line and get their papers legally"

But they don't understand what it's like be unsupported
Every speeding ticket a chance to be deported
Fearful of the day your parents'll go away
And you'll have to say and explain
that your father's a real person, though he's disappeared
And all your friends'll all ask you as they jeer and they sneer
Where your father's gone.
Where my father's gone.

I came into this country when I was two years of age
Now I'm 19 turning 20 and I'm taking the stage.
Though my years here have not been with ease
I'm grateful that I came here, living the american dream
A couple years ago my parents got deported
But I've comported my pride, I got nothing to hide
I have my citizenship granted by Daca

But now the president's here to stop a
Chance at staying and living in this land full of giving
But it's getting harder cuz I can barely 'ford the cost of living
And I'm trying to save up just to visit my family
But for now that's just a fantasy
I dream of the day I can visit my homeland
But for now I'm focused on getting my own land
My parents worked so hard for me to get here
So I could take off and start a career

Only then, after overcoming thousands of hurdles
Taking on thousands of burdens
I'll be able to work hard if it inclines me
I'll outgrow the word immigrant that defines me
Immigration'll stop being a numerical scheme
And I'll be able to simply live the American Dream