

5-1-2003

## Assimilation

Sandra Aravena

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.collin.edu/forces>

---

### Recommended Citation

Aravena, Sandra (2003) "Assimilation," *Forces*: Vol. 2003 , Article 12.  
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.collin.edu/forces/vol2003/iss1/12>

This Poem is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Collin. It has been accepted for inclusion in Forces by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Collin. For more information, please contact [mtomlin@collin.edu](mailto:mtomlin@collin.edu).

## Assimilation

Sandra Aravena

“I don’t know the  
meaning of that,”  
He murmured  
While I was talking in  
class.

Learning a foreign  
language  
Is the start,  
Living in another  
country  
Listening to the news  
And still not able to  
understand

Going through the  
scholarly system  
And getting a push  
back  
Not to be placed in  
English One  
But in a remedial  
course  
Is their solution for  
that.

If your ideas are  
different  
Then the hosted one  
You better be careful  
Or someone will ask  
you  
To step out

After many years of  
learning  
When you are finally  
Engaged in Lyotard’s  
language games  
A big surprise  
Hiding  
The whole time  
The unspoken rules  
Still  
Set beside.



Dusty Bailey