Watsonville Public Library

Poetry Month Contest

Title: Life

Author: Jan Carlos Rodriguez

Growing up wasn't always easy. Never had my mother with me. Never had someone to pick me up when I was down. Never had someone to teach me right from wrong. Never able to turn to my pops. Always away at work making sure we had what we needed, but he didn't what know what we truly needed was fatherly love. Something I never saw. I chose wrong paths to fit in, I made wrong choices I regret. All making home feel hate inside. All that pain spreading slowly through my body like poison - that poison being all that negativity let inside me - something I would never happen, but I guess things aren't how one expects. Now I'm lost in a place with darkness. Not knowing where to go, what to do. I'm confused, I'm scared. I don't know if the next step I will take will make me fall in the depths of darkness. I'm scared to take the next step and not knowing what can happen. I'm thinking it's all reality, but it's more than that. It's the things that people don't see, that people ignore, pretend aren't there. That darkness is like all the things I can't control taking over me. That happiness left inside me is all empty now. Can't control it, don't know how to. I don't know if it'll ever end. If that darkness inside me will ever leave.

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