

EVA Y JULIA

Elodia Esperanza Benitez

Eva and Julia

Met across a school office

Traviesas

Title crowned

Atop flat ironed hair

Eva with the big mouth

No respect for her elders

Julia with the bad ideas

Gotta watch that one

Speaking the same stilted language

Girls who have never been heard

Spill out from their teeth

Don't know to hold the smoke for a beat

Always release it too soon

Don't know how to put down

The weight of generations

So they pull from each other's load

One by one

Mother's careless curses

Dismissed with an eye roll

For the other's benefit

Eva and Julia

Raise each other

By lessons learned hard

Broken hearts
Have their sting lulled away
By drives at dusk
Songs sung in childish tenor
Long into womanhood
No love quite like
The love we choose for ourselves