

Corrosion

Ashamed of you

Woman pushing her way rudely to the snowpeas
Loud restaurants and the slurpings, accents,
the strange animal parts
that show up in your soup
Old man sitting on a corner
slowly rocking, slowly rocking,
ranting of old days,
as the pigeons
clutter
by his feet

Your are not a part of me.

I am

a normal teenager
eat pizza, go roller skating, listen to top 40
flirt with boys, go to the beach;
fit in.

“Are you Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino, Hawaiian?

Do you eat lice...Do you know Bruce?

Oh AAAAH So, Sukiyaki!

Sahlee, Chalee!”

You are not a part of me.

Immigrant, sweatshop woman,

kung fu man, laundry worker,

Chinese waiter, computer nerd.

You are not a part of me.

Eyes, tongue,

leg, breast,

heart

You are not a part of me.

—Gisele Fong