We Are

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We are of the generation
of women who ventured
beyond boundaries;
who embraced the body,
who relished passion,
who dreamt of justice.

We are of the generation
of women who rejected
the narrow limits;
who trampled on conformity,
who spat on subjugation,
who dreamt of freedom.

We are of the generation
of women who transgressed
the holy scriptures;
who dared to speak;
who caressed untouchables,
who dreamt of deliverance.
We are of the generation
of women who endured
the punishment;
who wrestled fears,
who defied solitude,
who dreamt of liberation.

Antonia Darder is a distinguished international Freirean scholar. She holds the Leavey Presidential Endowed Chair of Ethics and Moral Leadership at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles and Professor Emerita of Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign. She is an American Educational Research Association Fellow and recipient of the American Educational Research Association Scholars of Color Lifetime Contribution Award. Over nearly 40 years, her critical scholarship on culture, social justice, pedagogy, the body, ethics and methodology has contributed to rethinking questions of empowerment and liberation in the education of subaltern populations. Beyond her academic contributions to the field, she is also a poet, visual artist and songwriter.

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