

[you make me want to become] Beans

By: Aida Ramirez

Date: October 2017

(performance script for Beans I-III)

So– I had a dream

And in the dream my father turned to me
and said I love you– but
I don't love you as much as beans

I love eating beans

They're so essential and–

Soi'vebeenthinking

You. Make. Me. Want. To. Become.
Beans.

You make me want to be served three
times a day
–breakfast lunch and dinner
–and then eaten as a snack
in between

You make me want to be something you
could smother and swaddle
–in cheese and tortillas
–enjoy

And maybe I'd be refried beans

–warm and mushy
–simple
–wow! that would be just so perfect
But I don't know if I could withstand the
cooking– the being fried
and then refried and then refried and then
refried
I don't know if I have that kind of
thick skin– so maybe I won't be those

And maybe I could become

Red beans
Redbeansandrice– just like mama served
for celebrations
–new years
–and birthdays
–and christmas too
But I don't know if I would be worthy
I don't know if I would guarantee a
Special Occasion

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-I'm not that special
-so maybe I won't be red beans because
then I would need to be served con
arroz

But— riceandbeansandriceandbeans

They Belong Together
And they're apart of who er are
And they are the heart of every meal
And. I. Want. To. Become. Beans.
And. I. Want. To. Bathe. Myself. In.
Beans.
Whatifiwasbeans?

What if I became black beans

Buti'mnotthatdark
-I'm only this dark
-this kind of cafe con leche
And maybe that's okay
Maybe in my reality I'm a pinto bean

And if I am pinto can I be

both kinds of Brown?
-can I be the light and dark speckles
-can I become all shades of brown
-not just this brown
-can I feel as light and dark as either and
all shades of brown at once

And you make me want to become beans

Pero you make me want to become
Borracho Beans
You make me want to become the bowl
of beans
-The Whole Meal
-not just the beans pero
-the ham hock
-and vegetables
-and soupy broth too
You make me want to be that substantial
-a meal

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And you make me want to become this

Bowl of everything cooked

Together

Into one

-and melt

-and become

-the beans and the bowl

You make me want to become a

Bowl of Beans

-the experience of eating a meal

-I want to be your meal