

# *Birthright*

Kayla Tso

September 16th,  
早,  
cradled by my mother,  
we returned home  
on the day I was supposed  
to arrive.

我的爷爷奶奶  
teaching me  
whispers of a language  
lost in the cracks  
of my mind

Learning languages of another,  
français, 日本語, 汉语.  
Searching for what was known,  
but long forgotten

匆忙  
The countdown of life,  
non-existent  
still weighing on my back,  
still weighing on their backs

Learn to say:  
谢谢  
我爱你  
再见  
before time is lost,  
like the language in me.



*Fragments* by Jaymie Cristobal