

Blue Moon Cafe

Raquel Rodríguez

Dad...Gus as all his buddies
called him on payday.

Payday on Gus at the Blue Moon Cafe.

Daddy singing tunes with his
fine-tuned guitar of lost loves
so sweet.

Tunes in Spanish
didn't mean a thing to me,
just a lingering sadness surrounding
us as thick as the cigarette smoke.

Paydays Dad never got home,
we'd wait for burgers & fries,
payday treats
never arrived.

I'd sneak in one step at a time
looking for the barstool
that sang "On Top of Old Smokey"
without the wine on
Linda Vista Drive.

"wait mija I'll be right there,
I'm having a good time."

Me - the oldest mija
always the bad news carrier from
the Blue Moon Cafe.