

GLIMMER OF HOPE

By: James Soto

A glimmer of light fills the dark void of my isolation.

Like a slight beam of the Sun's ray,
a vision of hope trickles through
bringing with it the glow of freedom.
Eyes squinting, straining, searching
for this dim flicker of light.

All in an effort to free my
brown body from decades spent in a cage.

When I cry out who hears me,
my voice carried out on a cold wind.

But my words will not be uttered in vain. They will resound
like rolling thunder and heard like a trumpet's horn.

A glimmer of hope is all I need. Indeed it's all that's needed.

Once I grasp it, I'm filled with the resolve to pull myself
out of this abyss.

I know why Angelou's Black Bird Sings, it sings the song
of hope - the hope to one day be free from its cage,
to spread its wings and fly away.

The glimmer of hope gives me the strength to push forward.

It allows me to take back my humanity, above the carceral insanity.

It lets me dream of life outside my confinement, and to sing like the
caged Black Bird for freedom . . .