mil miles marching

Erika Abad
We want amnesty, amnesty, amnesty
rob our earth rape our sisters then call us criminals, criminals, criminals
we want to dream to build to dream
like not so long ago your daddy's-daddy's granddaddy achieved -
can't we?
Can't we cross water to charter better opportunities
to take back the dignity your dirty money thieved
for our democracy
[democracy] that still kept ours on the street;
that still didn't give ours our books to read
cuz what we got to say
what did we have to write, right?
But of the pains oppression granted us by
those before you
like you who
didn't believe how we speak, how we run
our streets, who and how we choose to
believe
wasn't worth anything
But more than 4437 gathered round,
Marched miles on your ground to let you know
Your bull ain't goin' keep us bound
We'll block more than traffic and city trains
In us it's more than rebellion you've found.

ERIKA GISELA ABAD earned her Bachelors
Degree in Latin American and Latinos Studies at DePaul
University. She is currently pursuing her PhD in American
Studies at Washington State University, Pullman.
Contact her: erikagiselaabad@yahoo.com