

para mi abuela, میرے دادا کے لیے

by Kira Motiwalla

Apercu
is similar to my grandparents'
Wi-fi network name
Apakeru
Apogs + Pakistan + Peru.
Apercu, Apakeru
the warm embrace of spices
engulf you into a blended hug:
the tumeric, cardamon, cinnamon, ginger, chilis,
and Ingrid.
oh
that's not a spice
that's my grandma
Ingrid Bertha Apogs-Motiwalla.
Apakeru
Words are hardly spoken,
but the sliced grapefruit,
dazzled with salt and pepper,
the savory peppercorns battling the bitter citrus
is his "I love you پرتی".
Apercu, Apakeru
my grandpa
Born in India, but moved to Pakistan
Hai Motiwalla.
Supposedly, a quiet, grumpy old man
but I know the same guy
as funny, money-focused, and unbeatable in Sequence
Apakeru
is her short curly silver hair
is her broken English
is his raspy Pakistani accent
is his near perfect streak in Sequence
Apercu, Apakeru.