**Module 2 Thematic Group Discussion - Liminality in Chicano Lit**

The story “the Hammon and the Beans” follows the Liminality theme where a Mexican family is struggling hard to live up to their standards but fail because of the injustice and disparities they face in American culture. The writer had a sentimental ironic vision where he tries to convey the message to the reader that how a Mexican girl is deprived of happiness an success because of political, social, economic and ethnic circumstances. Her death was also subject to a lack of medical attention and social problems she and her family had been facing. The girl and her family had come to America to find freedom and opportunities to lead successful lives but instead, they find chaos in what they thought might be a safe haven for them. In this story, the immigrants are the protagonists who are suffering at the hands of government and military. All the while Revolutionaries like George Washington and Francis Marion are glorified in schools but Emiliano Zapata is officially condemned. The contradiction in the narrative of the government and freedom of speech is such a deception where American Revolution is adored, the Mexican revolution is condemned.

These immigrants find themselves as enslaved by the government. The fence that keeps them away from the fort is a symbol of the system of exiling the immigrants from what Americans tend to own. They are treated the same way as Anglo Americans; walled out and alienated. These people have been ripped away from their comforts and security. I think they have o the point where there are no expectations left from the American’s justice system. They are innocent and deserve better than this. The protagonist represents the poverty, hardships, inequality, and cry of a forgotten people. Chonita’s speech of Hammons and the beans are the demand of her people to rise above the shams of poverty and be given better. They are the victims of injustice that all immigrants face in the name of crossing borders for safety and getting away from the said colonization of Americans on their lands. This story is a portrayal of the disparities Mexicans and Anglo-Americans been facing in the name of Americanization ideology.