

Podcast Script

Mariana Montufar

Podcast Title: Latina Stories

Episode Title: Daisy

INTRO (0:00 - 0:56)

HOST:

"Welcome!

This is going to be a special occasion podcast.

I want to introduce and welcome Daisy. Daisy is one of my best friend's girlfriend and one of my best friends too. My soul sister, fellow Latina, and I feel like she's important to my story, and other Latina stories because she just resonates with so many things that we all experience. I feel like it's important to have her story here. Daisy, Thank you."

GUEST:

"Thanks for having me, I'm excited to have this chat with you."

HOST:

"Yes, it's just two girls literally in my small apartment, live from Monterey California. Just a conversation"

GUEST:

"Just two girls chismeando."

HOST:

"Yapping it out.

Okay, I'm going to get started on this."

SEGMENT 1: [Latina Feminism and Mexican Identity] (0:56 - 1:56)

HOST:

"My first question: as a Latina, how do you define feminism and how do you believe it intersects with your Mexican-American identity?"

GUEST:

"I think that's a really great question considering that when you're growing up, not just Latino, but specifically in the Mexican culture, there is a lot of machismo.

And within that, we have defined roles as women. Growing up here in the United States having immigrant parents from Mexico, those roles were definitely thrust upon me. But I think, the more I interacted with American culture, people outside of my family, people outside of my culture; I was able to see that there is just not one thing that defines us. That's the beauty about intersectional feminism, we can see ourselves in others, and in women overall."

SEGMENT 2: [Radicalization through Alternative Music] (1:56 - 3:41)

HOST:

"Another aspect of why I wanted to create this website and this podcast interviewing you today. We're both also considered, or alternative music plays an important role in our lives. We love our music. We obviously love Rancheras, música regional, and cumbias. We are alternative girls, we love our screamo, we love our punk, we love our alternative music; anything rock.

What role has alternative rock played in your personal life or your identity as a Mexican American?"

GUEST:

"Oh it radicalized me"

HOST:

"When did this happen?"

GUEST:

"I grew up with my dad who was always listening to rock music, so my eyes were open at a young age about what the meaning behind this kind of music is.

When you're looking at it from the stance of the lyrics of this song that is empowering or its about standing up for what's right or standing up against the man, fighting against the man, you are part of a movement of people who are trying to make change for the better.

Having music like that influenced me to think outside of just myself or just my family and it made me open my world view to think, "what's going on in my community and what's happening where I live, what's happening to the world?"

You're not the only person being oppressed and it's not just one small movement because we are all interconnected because we are all being oppressed by someone or something."

HOST:

"It's very political."

SEGMENT 3: [Culture, Traditions, and Gender Roles] (3:41-8:23)

HOST:

"Part of our Mexican culture, values and traditions is: marriage.

How do you feel about marriage counteracting your feminist views?

Do you think about living a traditional life?

Do you feel guilty that you are betraying this person if you become someone's wife?"

GUEST:

"I think this is something I have been going back and forth with a lot in life.

On one end, when you grow up, that's what you're taught.

You're seeing princessing being saved by the knight and you're seeing the big beautiful wedding and that happily ever after.

Obviously your mom was like my mom, always asking "so when do you think you're gonna get married? Do you think you're gonna want kids?" When you reach a certain age.

I used to say I didn't want that for so long because honestly I thought of married women as slaves. And that's on being Mexican, I'm not gonna lie because Mexican women are taught to be of service to their husbands. And that's something I never appreciated or wanted in my life.

As I've gotten older and I've experienced relationships, I realized I don't have to fit my relationship into that mold. I can make my relationship what I want it to be.

Slowly I realized, "Hey maybe I would like to get married, I would like to be someone's wife"

Not in the stereotypical Mexican-Latina way. I would like to get married but not out of need but of love.

I wanna be a wife, but not to be my husband's servant but my husband's partner. I think that's something we younger latinas are starting to realize. You can be married, you can be someone's wife. You can also maintain your individuality."

HOST:

"As someone who identifies with both your Mexican and American cultures, how do you reconcile or embrace the differences between the two especially when they conflict with each other with gender roles and family expectations?"

GUEST:

"Yeah, like I'm 30 but I still feel like the world is my oyster and I feel like there's still much I have to accomplish. I feel like when you hold on to those traditional values, I perceive from other women like you can't have both. You can't be an individual, you can't pursue your career or your art because you want to be a wife and you want to be a mother and have a family.

And as I grow I think that's okay, let's just focus on me right now. Let me focus on my career, let me focus on myself.

I get around some family members and they say "Ay mija, you're already 30, y no te has casado, you don't have kids, when are you going to have kids"

And I'm like ummm "When I'm ready, I don't need to do it now, I can do it later. I'm not on your timeline." I'm not on anyone's timeline. I'm on my own.

Just kind of shutting it down and realizing I'm doing this on my own time and doing it when it's right.

Who knows maybe next year I might get married, who knows maybe next year I have a kid, probably not. Not in this economy."

SEGMENT 3: [Final Topic or Practical Takeaways] (8:23-9:42)

HOST:

"My final question is: (and I always think about this when I journal, this is one of my favorite prompts); Let's say younger you walk in, what would you tell her? What are the most important things you would tell her?"

GUEST:

"OMG, that's a lot!"

HOST:

"The most important thing about being Latin-American, being a feminist. What your life path is right now, culture, what would you tell her?"

GUEST:

"I would tell her don't worry about being too much or too little for here or overthere.

Just worry about being enough for yourself. I think growing up, I wanted to fit in so badly with the kids at school, but I also wanted to fit in with my family. It would tear me apart a little bit because I didn't fit in here or there and I have come to accept the fact that I'm not from here or there, I'm both and I'm a beautiful mixture of two.

Accepting that gives me so much freedom and peace because I can be who I am."

CLOSING REMARKS (9:42-10:44)

HOST:

"Hopefully we can bring other women together to let go of the expectations of being traditional or the judgment of our tios and tias. Hopefully we can inspire others to embrace the ride that everything that comes with learning, we are a work in progress nothing is ever going to be linear.

Just embrace it, like what you like, love what you love. When you were talking about not being enough or being too much, don't worry about it, we're always going to be enough. You are enough.

Love you."

GUEST:

"Love you!"

HOST:

"I want to thank you again for being here and I will enjoy some tres leches with you."

GUEST:

"Yass, she made it, it's delicious."

HOST:

"Yes, again, part of our culture is amazing food, so we're gonna go enjoy that!"

END OF EPISODE