

WHEN YOU SPEAK, "YOU HAVE  
CONFESSED YOUR PARENTS, YOUR  
YOUTH, YOUR SCHOOL, YOUR  
SALARY, YOUR SELF-ESTEEM, AND  
ALAS, YOUR FUTURE"

(BALDWIN, 1997, P. 5).



"So, if you want to really hurt me,  
talk badly about my language. Ethnic  
identity is twin skin to linguistic  
identity - I am my language. Until I  
can take pride in my language, I  
cannot take pride in myself."

How to Tame a Wild Tongue  
Excerpt from Borderlands/La Frontera  
By Gloria Anzaldúa




... to me, my mother's  
English is perfectly clear,  
perfectly natural. It's my mother  
tongue. Her language, as I hear it, is  
vivid,


direct, full of observation and  
imagery. That was the language that  
helped shape the way I saw things,  
expressed things, made sense of  
the world.

Mother Tongue  
By Amy Tan





**Tell about the  
South. What it's like  
there. What do they  
do there. Why do  
they live there. Why  
do they live at all.**



from *Absalom, Absalom!*  
by William Faulkner